

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Withem.

CLERK: Has to do with 1059.

SENATOR WITHEM: Okay. Yes, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, this is an amendment, it is an intent language amendment as opposed to moving any real dollars around. But it deals with the state aid appropriation. You all know last year we raised sales tax and we raised income tax to fund LB 1059. By default, this year, we seem to be adopting the philosophy that the appropriation for state aid to education will be based on the amount of money raised from the projected tax increase. And we're basing this on projections. All I'm saying with this amendment is that it is the intent of the Legislature that should that tax increase, the sales and income tax that was raised in passing LB 1059, actually raise more money than was anticipated in...by the revenue projections, that that money should be plowed back into state aid to education for purposes of replacement of local property tax dollars. That's what we sold the measure on. I hope it's a technical sort of amendment. I hope that this is something that would be considered appropriate by the Appropriations Committee when they're doing the deficit appropriation anyway, but this is just language into the appropriation bill to make this happen. If you have any questions, I'd be happy to respond to them.

SPEAKER BAACK: Discussion on the amendment offered by Senator Withem. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: I, too, rise to support Senator Withem's amendment. You may remember that, oh, a month and a half ago, six weeks to two months ago, the Appropriations Committee had, you may have read a blurb about the committee decreasing the amount of money appropriated under LB 1059. At that time what had happened, you remember when we went home last year and we adjourned sine die and passed 1059A, the total appropriation in 1059A, at that time, was \$360 million in '91-92, and \$377 million in '92-93. Well, obviously, as did state revenues, the revenue...the sales and income tax revenue increase that was contained in LB 1059, that rate collects less now than we thought it would a year ago at this time. And for that reason the committee, in its recommendation that it advanced on General File decreased from 360 to 357, this year, and from 377 to 370, next year. That's the actual decrease. And Senator Withem's