

of 772...or 1272. I anticipate that there will be another motion now to strike 1272, or the original 1272 from the bill. And if that is successful, I'm only one vote, but I know I will not be there at the next...on the next reading of this bill, and I will not be there on Final Reading. I believe that what we did was appropriate in the committee, it was proper budgeting, it's what we're going to have to do more and more of in the next year to deal with the budget shortfalls. I, at the last minute, gave this...the teachers bill a vote to get it over to Select File, but that is a very, very, very tenuous vote on my part. I have to think about this more before Select File, but I want to make it clear to those who endorse this bill, or this amendment, this portion of the bill, the teachers and so forth, that it certainly does go, it's a totally different concept, goes totally beyond what we originally intended in 1272. And if 1272, as originally introduced, is a victim of this legislative procedure, that my vote will not be there on Final Reading. And I still have to think about it, even if it is there on Final Reading, because Senator Warner has made some very, very good points. And that's why I did not vote to...on the germaneness question, because I really did feel that there are some significant germaneness questions, obviously. Senator Kristensen and Senator Warner make some good points, and I think we all need to continue to listen to those points. With that, I will just...I'm going to move...I would support the advancement at this point, but it's a very wait and see vote, to see what happens down the line.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Ashford. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Madam President, members of the body, I rise to support the advancement of LB 1272 for two general reasons, and follow up on what Senator Ashford was saying. I don't think we can...we should forget the core bill that is here, although it may be a very small, little person out there now carrying a very big load. But the core of what Senator Ashford has proposed, dealing with the wards of the court program, I think, is a valid issue and needs to continue to be advanced. And concerning the teacher pay bill, just a little bit of a response back to some things I've heard here on the floor. One of those is the constant reference to raiding of the Highway Trust Fund, once it starts it never stops. It's an argument that's very hollow, at least as far as I am concerned I don't consider (a) this to be a raid, or (b) that there is any other designs on any other Highway Trust Fund money that I would support. This is money