

Senator Wickersham is correct that, as he laid out five choices for you, and said that probably my choice and a number of other people here on the floor would have been number one, which would have been 80 percent tax credit and 20 percent would always continue to go to the schools, that didn't happen. That's not one of the choices we really have. As we go down the list of the others that he brings in, and I've looked at all of those, and I find major problems with each one of those. Number five that someone else pays, a city, I looked at that and he and I had some discussion on that and I had a number of people tell me that that wouldn't be constitutional. That will be Senator Wickersham's area of expertise but they question the constitutionality of that. And so, as I look down the choices that we have before us, I think the one that is the most fair to all those involved in the school aid formula is the one that says, yes, we will have the Micron schools looking needier; yes, they will get more money from the school aid formula because they look needier; yes, we will all be contributing to that school aid formula, that pot of money, as we recognize that, but at the same time, yes, all of us will be benefiting from more sales and income tax money flowing to that same formula. For that reason, and I would like to make this point clear, what we need to do is we have divided the question and so we have amendment, that part of the amendment, Section 36, before us, when it comes to vote we need to vote no on the amendment, therefore taking it out, if you feel the way I have felt. If you feel the way Senator Wickersham and the case that he will make, you will vote yes. I think people are a little confused on that and they talk about a Bohlke amendment which really isn't there. What I have done is divided the question and taken Section 36 out. If we want to keep it out, which accomplishes what I want to do, you would vote no on the amendment. With that, I ask you to vote no. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSPY PRESIDING

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Madam President. A couple of things. I have not seen Senator Withem's worksheet about the potential impact that can be had on the income tax rebate, but, Senator Withem, are you...there's a forest of people around you, but are you in there?

SPEAKER WITHEM: Yes.