

that is step one. Secondly, and very importantly, as Senator McKenzie has begun to describe, there is a process in the amendment which prescribes certain time lines for the various groups, including the Special Education Accountability Commission, to identify possible cost savings areas and to come back with recommendations to the Education Committee with the possibility of legislation to be introduced the first of January of '96 to address those cost containment measures or steps that we could take. It's an aggressive time line, it's one that some have said that...

SENATOR LANDIS: One minute.

SENATOR BROMM: ...I've talked with is going to be difficult to comply with, but I suggest that we need to be aggressive in addressing the problem. We can't procrastinate any longer. My fear is that we'll reach a point where some will say, due to the costs, that we have to abandon the needs of children who have special education needs, clearly have needs. And I, for one, and, I think, my colleagues here do not want to get to that point. We want to take care of those who need special education, those who can benefit from special education. We want to provide those children with the services. However, we have to find a better way to control the cost. There has to be additional restraints on costs....

SENATOR LANDIS: Time.

SENATOR BRCMM: Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Let me give you the batting order and then I'll also recognize some student groups that are in the balcony. Senator Pedersen will be followed by Senator Vrtiska, then Senator Bromm again, Senator Dierks and Senator Maurstad. Those are the lights that the Chair has. However, right now I'd like to recognize guests of Senator Fisner. They are 48 fourth graders and three sponsors from Wasmer Elementary School in Grand Island. If those children would stand up we'd like to see you here in the Nebraska Legislature so we can recognize you. Thank you. And if you look in the balcony you can see Senator Cudaback. He is there addressing 50 fourth graders and three sponsors from Morton Elementary School in Lexington. If those 50 fourth graders from Morton Elementary would stand up we'd like to recognize you, too. Thank you for coming for the Nebraska Legislature and we