

should be of some help. Secondly, I think the federal government, Senator Vrtiska, right now is looking at some changes in the federal requirements. And while our process is ongoing and we have a pilot project it's...I think we can be somewhat hopeful that the federal government may change some of their requirements which would take some of the pressure off some of the cost. Beyond the mandate question the other area that I'd like to quickly address is that even those who work in the special ed area and administrators who administer in the special ed area, I think many of them would tell you that there have been, there has been some examples of spending that perhaps could have been curtailed or maybe shouldn't have been shifted to the special ed area. And without getting into specifics that I've received a couple of letters on from schools or talked with some administrators about, I think that the process we're going to go through here is going to result in schools making a more conscientious effort at identifying those students who truly need special ed help versus those who can perhaps receive some additional help in the regular main stream of education. It will require and encourage schools, I guess, would be a better work, it would encourage schools to be very prudent in how they use those dollars because it's not a bottomless pit. As it stands right now, and I was on the school board for 10 or 11 years, when it's a special ed matter many times the discussion got to the point where someone would say, well, it's reimbursable anyway, it's 90 percent or 100 percent reimbursable so why don't we do it? Well, that won't happen under the philosophy of the bill and the amendments, I don't believe, because schools will realize that we don't have an endless stream of money, we don't have a bottomless pit and we will have to figure out how to use those dollars as efficiently and as prudently as possible and it is a road map. This bill is not a total and final solution...

SENATOR LANDIS: One minute.

SENATOR BROMM: ...but it is a road map to set us on the road to encourage schools to be prudent and conscientious as much as possible with these dollars. So I guess I want to address, to just review a little bit your question about the mandates and how that could change to some extent and, secondly, how this bill can help even if we don't have much of a relaxation of the mandates by encouraging more prudent use of the dollars at the local level. Thank you, Mr. President.