

be driven by student and family needs rather than by state funding formulas". Currently, one of the most inequitable situations that happens is that we have school districts who have to pay for the identification and pay for the verification process or pay for services for a multiply handicapped child who comes into the system, and then wait a year to get that money. Now what we provide to the children, all children in special education that year is somewhat driven by our funding formula, not by what our students and families need but by what we happen to have as available money based on last years' numbers, not this year's numbers, last years' numbers and costs. So that language is in there basically to say we're going to move away from the idea of letting the money dictate what we do and looking at what needs to be there for students and families. The other area that I'd like to draw your attention to is on the...the first line on the top of page 1393, it says, "to the extent possible". I apologize for that language being there, it was in the original proposed amendment and was supposed to be stricken. It will be removed in Select File amendments, as will the language about unique needs of students. So I wanted to bring those two areas back to you for your consideration. And, Senator Chambers, if I could respond to one other...one other addition to your previous question, there is a repealer section on the...in the final part of the amendment that does repeal...it's Section 7, does repeal those sections of statute that deal with the funding mechanism the state currently has for special education. So there is a repealer for the funding system, but not necessarily for the intent language in the process for reform. Just so you knew that that is there. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator McKenzie. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Crosby, members of the body. I guess, first of all, I'd like to say probably there are people who have been brought in for questioning that have taken less grilling than Senator McKenzie has taken this afternoon. But given that statement, I want to ask her another question when she gets back to her station.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator McKenzie.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Senator McKenzie, I said when you weren't listening I think you've probably taken more grilling than probably somebody who's been picked up by the police and tried