

want to withdraw that one and offer.... Well, just withdraw that one. It's on page 1821, Senator.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Correct, that's correct.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Withem would move to amend. Senator, AM1819 is what I have in front of me. (Senator Withem's AM1819 is found on page 2049 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Withem.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The amendment was one in the same. Basically, what it does is it takes the school portion out of LB 613 and would leave the school lid in place as it is today. I guess number one, you need to understand this does not remove school districts from having a budgetary limitation. It is my intention, it was the intention of the authors of LB 1059 that the school districts would be under a budgetary limitation and that that would exist in perpetuity. The committee amendments at this point and the bill, as introduced, would have taken the limits of allowable growth, is the jargon we use in the statute to refer to the lid on school districts, would have decreased that from its current 4 percent for average spending or high spending districts, up to 5.5 percent to low spending districts. What the bill would currently do would allow...would lower that to a range of 3 to 4.5, I believe. I believe those numbers are correct. Senator McKenzie, is that correct? Okay. So what this...my amendment would do if it's successful would, it would leave in place the school limitation of a range of 4 percent to 5.5 percent. I believe that probably is the correct policy for the Legislature to enact. I will listen to the discussion on the bill to make a determination as to whether I think this is a...a measure that ought to go to a vote or not. But I do want to take a little bit of an opportunity because this is one of the first times all session long that we've had an opportunity here on the floor to debate school finance. The budget limitation in Section 79-338.14, et cetera, the other provisions of the law, were all part of a major rewrite of the school finance legislation that was enacted back in 1990. It was certainly the most complex, controversial piece of legislation I'd ever been involved with and I think many of the members who were on the floor at that time felt...felt the same way, felt the same way. Since that time, we've had a big turnover in the Legislature. I think at this point, Marsha can nod yes or no if