

SENATOR WITEK: Madam President and members of the body, I just had the amendment passed out. It should be on your desks. What it does is insert the language after the language that was just inserted with the Vrtiska amendment on page 8 of the bill, and it simply states that all costs of having a special master shall be paid equally by both parties. There was some discussion just in the last few minutes on who would incur the costs of this extra layer of bureaucracy is what I think it is, and I don't want it to fall back on the state. I am concerned even about it falling back on school districts that are under lids and trying to cut costs. We're having some very deep, thorough discussions right now in Omaha on the costs of the school districts and even Millard is considering having a similar type audit done on the costs. And I think with all the cost or the talk lately of property taxes and tying a lot of that discussion to the cost of spending in the public school system that these are definitely some consideration should be given for who will be paying for this extra layer and making sure that it's addressed in the legislation itself and not something that we just let go by and assume that it's something that will be done after the legislation, if it's enacted, is enacted. So I have had a talk with several of the other senators, though, who are involved in this bill and there seems to be feeling that they'd like to discuss this off the floor and possibly come back with this amendment or a similar amendment that states specifically who will incur the extra costs of all this extra bureaucracy. So I will pull this amendment at this time, but I definitely want people to be aware that there is nothing in the bill that states where...who will pay for this and I hope you all take the time to read the fiscal note. The fiscal note also explains that there is nothing in the bill that explains who will pay the cost of a special master so it's definitely something we need to address and I'll bring forward a similar amendment or an amendment addressing who will be paying for these costs on Select File. And at this time I'll pull 2160. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: It is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk, is there anything further on the bill?

CLERK: Madam President, I have nothing further on the bill at this time.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Is there any further discussion on LB 365? Seeing none, Senator Abboud to close.