

have to just uniformly raise everybody. Every time we're asked to uniformly cut everybody, we can't do that. But, boy, come time to uniformly raise everybody and we sure can do that. All I'm asking is to freeze these three areas for a couple years and let them try, maybe they'll have to cut some personnel, maybe they'll have to cut some programs down for the time being. And it's tough to make those decisions in those departments but it should be tough to make those decisions on this floor and these are the tough decisions that you were elected to make. So I hope that people will support this amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Would like to recognize 20 fourth graders from Raymond Central School in Ceresco in the north balcony and with their teacher. They are here as guests of Senator Hudkins. So would you all please stand. On the Witek amendment, Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members of the body, Senator Wehrbein, could I ask you a couple of questions, please.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I guess the question that I have and been bothering me and I think you understand that is if, in fact, we don't find any place to reduce any funds in the mainline budget and it goes to the Governor, do you think that he's going to make some cuts?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: He probably will, yes.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Well, do you think, you know, philosophically, do you think it's better that we try to attempt to make some adjustments that we think are fair? Or do you think we should probably just pass it on like it is and let him make the decision where he thinks it ought to take it out? I mean, what's your philosophical attitude on that issue?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, some of that probably is philosophical. Obviously, the Governor has some things that he wants to do and the Legislature has some things that we want to do and the only way that I have seen, in my limited experience here, is that you send down a plate or a menu of the things that we jointly want and if the Governor has some difference of opinion, that's when he exercises it through the veto pen. And so, to some degree,