

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I...

SENATOR ROBINSON: I think it's 1 point...I think it's 17 million, isn't it?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I would have to have my...yeah, it is 17 million. I would have to have my numbers .. (inaudible - microphone not activated.)

SENATOR ROBINSON: Okay.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...what that percent is.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Okay. That was my only question. Thank you. Senator Brown talks about 30 million in state aid, but we know how that's going to be used up because if you take a good look at our state aid formula for schools, you know, with all the exemptions property taxes aren't going to go down, they're probably going to go up. And I still want to emphasize the point that when I moved to bracket the bill I thought the authority ought to be with the Appropriations Committee to do it. I understand. They don't want to do it. We know that the cost of living is 2.9 percent, that's why government continues to grow, Senator Crosby, continues to grow every year. Take a good look at how we've increased employment, how we increased the budget. But I'm a realist. A fat lady has sung, folks, a fat lady has warbled her last notes. We know it. I know I've lost, but I...I'm not a good loser. You show me a good loser and I'll show you a loser. I will vote...I will oppose the bill and I hope the rest of you people, some over 20 that I've talked to that feel that we ought to have budget cuts will oppose the bill. And I think we ought to just wipe it off. We ought to vote the bill up or down right now and get on with business because we know there's nothing going to be cut. because, as I just said, the fat lady has warbled her last notes and we're not going to cut anything. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Schimek, you are recognized to speak.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President, and members of the body, I want to...I want to make it very clear what this amendment is all about. It's not about fighting unfunded mandates because there's no implementation language being removed here. What this amendment does is simply take away the