

light is next.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you. Senator Withem, I think you made some good points, and I am sorry that we didn't have a chance to talk about your opposition because I also think that we do need to take these children out of the classroom, but not let them off the hook of learning. My daughter and son-in-law also teach, and their complaints are that because, and this is only third grade, this isn't...this isn't any guns, but that time is spent so often on those who are disrupting the class that there is not learning going on for that general body of the class. And that's really what we're saying, and this doesn't have anything to do with the bent spoon. We are talking only about firearms, and the definition that can only be a gun or the legal definition of a firearm, and that's why in this amendment we still talk about the...we still have left in the knowing and intentional possession, use, or transmission of a dangerous weapon, and that isn't the mandatory year that we are talking about, or that the federal government is mandating. What we're talking about is the intentional possession, knowing, use, transmission of a firearm, which is in the U.S. Code 921. And, you know, it's certainly a gamble. As I said, Senator Bohlke passed out the amounts of money that would go to each school district, but certainly there is a distinction between guns and other weapons in this amendment. And I guess the reason why...somebody said, well, why would you even support this? Because I am not associated with the prohibition of firearms, I guess, would be their point, but I am really concerned. You know, we have about three groups of children, and that's a loose classification. We have the brightest, and these children are going to get along, no matter what happens in the classroom. And then we have the larger body of the classroom, and those are the ones that I'm concerned about. If they miss what's going on in an orderly classroom, they are going to suffer. And to have one or two who disrupt that classroom and disrupt that larger body of students, who need the full attention of a teacher, that's why I am concerned about that. And I supported your discipline code, Senator Withem, and I certainly support finding the ways that these disruptive students, these at-risk students would not just be allowed to stay home but, indeed, must be in a more intensive...someone was talking about an alternative school, and asking me why an alternative school, they were out earlier in the day, they have less time spent in it, when...

SENATOR HALL: One minute.