

SENATOR PIRSCH: ...indeed, it was almost like a bonus instead of a discipline. So I think we need to look at that, and I think we need to look at what goes on in an alternative school, and the time spent, but, certainly, this, to me, is something that would be conducive to order and learning in the classroom, and that's why I did consider to have Senator Bohlke's amendment, and I certainly would consider Senator Withem's further amendment to make the alternative to those at-risk students, those disrupters, to find a more disciplined school situation for them.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Pirsch. Senator Bohlke, your light is next.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members, there are a few things that I, as you do on the floor, hear comments that need to be cleared up. One is certainly we cannot come back next session and deal with this, someone said to me. You know, that seems to be the password or byword for a lot of things this year, well, we can deal with it next session. We have until October 20th of this year to come into compliance. And so we can't come back next year. I think that it's interesting, and, Senator Withem, I am sure maybe you find it interesting, Senator Crosby stands and supports alternative classrooms, Senator Pirsch, myself. As you indicated, you were upset that the Education Committee wouldn't agree to put the alternative classrooms in the amendment, itself. We had discussed that you were going to file an amendment to get that attached on, but it was in your frustration that they didn't want that included that you've indicated to me is the reason you're opposed to suspending the rules when, in fact, I think there are a number of people on the floor who have indicated that their philosophy is, no, they don't want students sitting at home on a davenport, not being in any kind of an educational setting. So I wish we would have been able to get to that. I guess I indicated to you earlier that I thought maybe we would find a lot of support for that. You know, it was close last time. But I think that the examples that you gave raised a question in people's minds of that we should move in that direction, but that's not what we're about. What we're really about right now is a process to get...to get us in line with the federal regulation. I know that the woman that they spoke to in Washington, and that Polly Feis spoke with, is actually in charge of gun-free schools provisions for the U.S. Department of Education. She told us