

Now that will make him stay here until we adjourn this evening. So I've at least kept one more person here than we would have had otherwise. I don't know how I'm going to vote now on Senator Withem's amendment. I'll have to see how others who have taken an interest in this seem to be leaning.

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

SENATOR FIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I had thought this would be a simple procedure. And I guess I certainly support the Withem amendment to the bracket because I do think that we need to have something done. It would be very interesting to work with Senator Chambers and see if that would produce something that maybe we would all be happy with, we would all be proud of. I was concerned with the fact that, like it or not, the federal government has carrots and sticks for us, and this would be a carrot that would, indeed, be jerked away, and without...without being necessary, that's really what I had imagined. But I can see why they did this. I can see why they are saying that guns in school are very, very dangerous and are very, very serious and cause very, very bad tragedies. And it's lighthearted to see a kindergartener take a gun to school, gosh, you know, we can all smile about that. But if something serious had happened, if that kindergartener had shot a classmate, the teacher, it wouldn't be so cute and it wouldn't be taken so lightly. It's an anomaly probably, goodness, I hope so. Senator Bromm and Senator Wickersham, I appreciated your discipline comments. I also think that this is something the federal government mandates, something that is definitely...that we should look at as a state in our discipline code, and certainly without Senator Bohlke's amendment we can't even talk on these things. So if we don't want to talk tonight, I will be happy to meet with anyone. And if we bracket this until tomorrow, I would hope that those intentions are serious, that we have serious discussion on how we can accommodate, not only the seriousness of the offense, but also accommodate those very questions that were raised on the floor tonight of what do we do with this student who is so fractious...

SENATOR HALL: One minute.

SENATOR FIRSCH: ...that they consider, even consider taking a gun to school. We certainly ought to make that message, that no guns should be allowed in school, very clear to our students,