

SPEAKER WITHEM: ...the Appropriations Committee could conceivably say zero, or 01.00000.1 perhaps, so, in effect, the Legis...so this does not give any school district any guaranteed growth. It caps the amount of growth that they will get at whatever the lid rate will be, which we have a bill that will make that 5.5 percent, but conceivably the Legislature, through the Appropriations Committee's recommendation and our passing the budget bill could conceivably cap this at zero percent. Couldn't go below that because of the 1, but this could be an indefinite cap at zero percent?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Which they could also do with the Bernard-Stevens amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Well, yeah, that may...this language, in fairness, this language here comes from the various amendments. It is not unique to the Bohlke-Bromm amendment. It's borrowed from others, but I just wanted to make sure I understood that mechanism. I filed an amendment up there that we won't get to right away that would at least make it the maximum, and the Legislature may not want to go to the maximum, but I think we ought to at least assure some sort of growth, because I think this has been represented as the...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SPEAKER WITHEM: ...school districts will get growth in succeeding years referenced back to the lid provision in the statutes, but that's technically not the case here, so I'll have an amendment that will address that when we have an opportunity to amend this. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Madam President, colleagues, I thought...I thought Speaker Withem was starting out and going to clarify a few things for me, and I wasn't going to have to...wasn't going to have to speak, and he got about half way through it, and then he took a detour, and now I am back to where I was before. So, Senator Bohlke, if you could answer a question for me.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yes.