

allowed at the normal growth we're experiencing in general education. The other two parts of the amendment that we had last night that we didn't get to, one being the second section which was the waivers, which schools could try to utilize to have some of the rules and regulations that are waiverable to be waived for them, to allow them more flexibility and some savings, that is part of this amendment as well. That is retained as part of the amendment. The third part was the emergency clause so that if we pass this bill and it is signed by the Governor then it goes into effect immediately, and that section is also part of the amendment. I would yield any additional time for opening, any remaining time to Senator McKenzie, or Senator Bernard-Stevens, or Senator Bohlke, whichever...Senator McKenzie first, if she has time. Would you like to.... Senator Bernard-Stevens, if you have time?

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Well, I'll take...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Bernard-Stevens, you have seven minutes.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I'll take the time. Members of the body, this morning and this afternoon I was beaten, I was bludgeoned, I was hammered and beaten to submission and finally had no choice but to agree with the amendment that we have, and it is a good compromise on all sides. I appreciate the work Senator Bohlke and Senator Bromm particularly, Senator McKenzie as well, in trying to find a way to try to stem the costs of special education, that we all want to do, to begin to change and reform the system, but still give us the flexibility that we need to make that transition. I believe this amendment covers the bases as best we can, sends a strong, strong message, and not even a message, it begins reforming the system. And I appreciate the efforts of all of my colleagues in working this compromise that I truly believe works. And I yield whatever time remains to Senator McKenzie.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator McKenzie, there are four and a half minutes, excuse me, five and a half minutes left.

SENATOR MCKENZIE: Thank you, Madam President, and thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens, for yielding some time. I, too, support the substitute amendment and I think in fact that we are doing exactly the same thing that we wanted to do, we're just doing it at a little different approach. Instead of 0 and 5,