

we're doing 2.5 and 3 in allowing the General Fund that provides money for special education to be capped or to be limited, but not necessarily with one flat year of 0. I think that all the parties involved have looked at the impact and do agree that we are accomplishing our goal and yet not in such a way that we will jeopardize the services to students or that we will put school districts in financial situations that are damaging to them in terms of their own budgetary process and reliance on a property tax levy to provide these mandated services. With that, Senator Bromm or Senator Bohlke, do you want any of the opening time? Senator Bohlke.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Four and a half minutes, Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Thank you, Senator McKenzie. I think that this demonstrates very much what we have been trying to say and that we realize that special ed costs have been spiraling. We realize that we want to do something that is going to protect children in school districts where they may have those very high needs children move in. And I think this was an attempt for all of us to sit down and say, how can we come up with a compromise that meets those two purposes? I think that this does that, in fact it still keeps, for those of us who said that we think it's very, very important for school districts to work with us and get at the issue of the spiraling costs, they in fact end up with two years, rather than one year, of really having a great deal of pressure on looking at ways to...look at the waivers or those things that are available to them to reduce the costs of special education. I certainly support this and I'm sorry, Senator McKenzie, has everyone had a chance to speak for the co-introducers? And so, with that, I would ask for your adoption of the Bromm amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Engel.

SENATOR ENGEL: Madam Chairman, members of the body, I, too, support this amendment. But what I'm standing up for is not particularly for the amendment itself and I'm supportive of the bill. What I want to do is tell you about LB 425 has been laid over and is going to remain so. The reason is not because of the bashing I've taken on the floor, especially yesterday from Senator Bernard-Stevens, because this decision was made Monday morning prior to LB 742 coming up, as can be attested to by Senator Brashear, Senator Wickersham and Senator Withem. That is not the reason we're withdrawing it. We spent about 14 and