

whatever waivers that we may or may not be able to do.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Madam Speaker, members, thank you. I still have some concerns about the bill itself. I commend the people for getting together today and not trying to do it last evening when tempers were flaring. It's remarkable what a good nights' sleep will do to everyone's tempers. And I believe we can work with this. This is probably the best...the best compromise we can come up with. We're still...we're not going to have that flat year right out in front, and this is what my concern was last evening is to having that flat year right away. As I said, there are still some more concerns that I have. And it sounds to me like we're going to get the waivers...get them down pat which ones we can eliminate or waive. Maybe there will be something else come along that we haven't thought about that we can help the districts with. It's going to be a dramatic change, I know that. And school districts are very adaptable, they'll work something out. They'll scream, the superintendent, administrator will all scream and holler but it will come to pass, it always does. There are some other concerns that I have also with "legations", lawsuits that...who's going to cover them if we end up in court. I believe there is an amendment coming to deal with that, we'll take that up when the time comes. But once again I'd like to thank the people involved with this amendment and their ability to sit down and work out a compromise, which I think is going to be for the betterment of the bill as a whole. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Janssen. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Madam Speaker, members, I'm going to support this. I am pleased to see there's a work out. I wouldn't have minded to had no growth. I know it was looked upon as being very severe by some, but I did put a lot of figures together today from surrounding states and I had ours analyzed for the last ten years. For your information there's been a 25 percent increase in special education pupils in the last 10 years, with 125 percent...124 percent increase in costs, whereas the average growth rate in the state, for pupils in general education, was 2.6 growth in pupils, with a 9.4...with a 6.4 percent increase in general expenditures. So it's quite