

the amendment. In fact, I think it ought to be seriously opposed at this point till we all have a better grasp of what it does. And sorry, Senator Withem, I'm getting more serious as I talk, but that's what I really feel uncomfortable at this point moving ahead. It does extend it to '97. It looks like to me we have time between now and January of '97 to look into this and we really don't need to do it right now and tip our hand till we understand it better.

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

SENATOR PEDERSEN: Madam President, members of the Legislature, the expense is just unbelievable of what can come from all of this litigation. I'm going to give you an example here of some of the things that are going to...could happen. With LB 742 going through and people coming up and saying you offered it last year, you're going to offer it this year and by God, if you don't, I'm going to sue you. Many different cases, and there's a case that I just heard about a little bit ago about a young person whose mother and father were not getting along, fighting and arguing and having lots of problems at home and this young person turned to crime and acting out, stealing cars, threatening people and it ended up at an in-patient facility for behavior disorders. When the insurance ran out the parents came to the school and wants the school to cover the bill for the in-patient treatment or residential treatment and if the school says no, they can't do that, they're going to be sued and if the school loses, not only are they going to pick up their own legal fees, they're going to pick up the legal fees of the defendant and then they still have to go back and do all this exuberant education and placement for the young person in the beginning. And Senator Witek mentioned, you know, about the...who is going to pay for it, I mean the state shouldn't have to pay for it. If the state doesn't, people, then the property taxes will. It will go back on the school and you know the schools get their money from property taxes. So who do we want to pay for it? And with the numbers the way Senator Withem has said them, this would be an area where we can cut. There would be some benefit to the special education area. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Kristensen, followed by Senators Beutler, Matzke, Schimek and Fisher.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President and members of