

an idea that is probably worth and probably a good state policy. I'm not saying that an intervening session of the Legislature, to look at the policy, is not bad, but I think now is an appropriate time when you begin to discuss who's going to be responsible in special education, and we're going to begin to put limits on it, lawsuits may be inevitable, but that the state...it is so important for the Department of Education to be brought into these and have some interest in what occurs and what the policy decisions are, that an amendment like this is not that intrusive, it will buy the state in to having some interest of what's going on at the local school district and I think that's just good policy at this point in time. Now, can there be fine-tuning in terms of defining when the claim arises? Most certainly, that's appropriate for study. But I think what Senator Withem has got here is a policy statement that says, look, who is going to fundamentally be responsible, or who's going to share in the decisions that you're going to make in special education, because some of these waivers are going to have a great impact and they're going to go directly to the school district. State of Nebraska needs to pick up some of those costs and be involved in that participation. This is probably the easiest way to do it and this is probably the least intrusive way to do it. Senator Beutler raises some good procedural questions, I think those are things we can study, those are things that can be used in the future and that as we carry this out can be done. Obviously, Section 8 was something I just couldn't...I couldn't expose the state to half those lawsuit judgments, just wasn't...it's just not something that I think you ever want to do is expose the state to a, perhaps to borrow a word that I learned from Senator Withem the other day, we may have recalcitrant school districts, and I'm not sure I want to expose ourselves to half of those judgments at all, I just don't think that's good policy, that's been taken out. And I think that Section 9, at least from my point of view, is worth the good policy choice to take it. I look from the school districts point of view that they may well need that assistance and that expertise, but it also is good policy for the state to be bought in in how those lawsuits are determined and what their outcomes are.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Abboud, your light is next. Waives off. Senator Beutler, your light is next.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I'll waive, too.