

move forward. The reason for doing this now, I guess, is because this is a bill that has been introduced any number of times, goes to the Education Committee, it gets lost in the multitude of other measures that that committee has before it, happened when I chaired the committee, it happens now, and we never quite get to it. Right now we have the policy statement on special education before us. We're telling local school districts, you have to cut back, we're not going to fund you. By adding this provision we're saying, in addition to cutting back, local school districts, if you're going to stand and make the tough decisions, we're going to be there to help you make those tough decisions. That's all this does. If there are better ways of making this specifics later on, yes, Senator McKenzie, and yes, Senator Bromm, we should certainly make those changes. The amendment as drafted, has a '97 implementation date,...

SENATOR HALL: One minute.

SPEAKER WITHEM: ...plenty of time to do that. But now is the time, as you have the special education bill in front of you, to make this policy statement. I would urge you to adopt the amendment.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Withem. You've heard the close on the Withem amendment to the McKenzie amendment. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Senator Withem.

SPEAKER WITHEM: I would request a call of the house and a roll call vote.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Withem. Request is that the house go under call. Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 32 ayes, 0 nays to go under call.

SENATOR HALL: The house is under call. All members, please record their presence. Members outside the Chamber, please return to the Chamber and record their presence. The house is under.... Senator Hartnett, Senator Chambers, Senator Elmer, Senator Lynch. Senator Beutler, if you'd check in, please. Thank you. Senator Schrock, thank you very much. Senator Lynch, Senator Elmer and Senator Hartnett, the house is under