

strike those particular sections because, first of all, I think that portion of the amendment is technically very flawed and perhaps even unusable in the context that the drafters intended it to be used, and, secondly, I think, as a matter of principle, we have no business doing what is suggested at this particular time. And I don't know why we should seek to pair provisions, which we do not need to do this year and are potentially technically flawed and, perhaps, otherwise objectionable, with something that we must do. So I think this will be an opportunity to break that linkage. Now I've said that I thought the amendment as drawn as it pertains to the alternative schools was quite technically flawed, and let me suggest to you a couple of those flaws. If you look at the language that would appear on page 2 of the amendment, beginning with line 10, it simply says, beginning January 1, 1997, each school district shall have, shall have an alternative school, class, or educational program available for all stu...and then I am going to skip a couple words, for all students expelled or whose expulsion has been suspended under this section. Well, those words literally wipe out all of the alternatives that are in the current statutory provisions that appear above it, and those are provisions for work programs, tutorial programs, GED, et cetera. If you read the language literally, it would mean that after January 1st of 1997, the only thing that you could have would be an alternative school, class, or educational program, whatever that is, or whatever it would be. And that's actually the other problem in that section because it goes on to say the State Department of Education shall adopt and promulgate rules and regulations relating to alternative schools, classes, and educational programs. Presumably, once the Department of Education promulgated rules and regulations, we would know what an alternative school, class, or educational program is, but we wouldn't know until then. Quite frankly, I am unwilling to delegate that much responsibility to the Department of Education. We might have to come back and do it over, and I don't see any reason to do that. I don't think it is absolutely necessary that we do that today. One of the other technical flaws in the amendment appears on page 1 of the amendment. It is at lines 21 through 23, and it says that if a student goes to another...is assigned to another district, that the sending district has to pay the other district's per pupil cost. Now there are two difficulties with that, one, immediately above that, it says any district may by agreement with another district send its suspended or expelled students to any school, class, or program. By agreement, well, what do you think an