

Journal. 23 ayes, 21 nays on the amendment, Madam President.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Wickersham amendment failed. I raise the call. Is there anything further on the Bohlke amendment?

CLERK: Senator Withem would move to amend. (See FA309 found on page 2576 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Withem to open on his amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Okay, this amendment is an attempt to deal with some of...a couple of Senator Wickersham's technical concerns. I am going to explain what it does and then yield my time to Senator Wickersham, and if he is in substantial agreement that this doesn't do...doesn't deal with his philosophical objection to the approach, but let's see if he is in support of this, and if so, maybe we can do it fairly quickly. If he is not, then there is no point in continuing it. But, as I understood, one of his concerns was the language about cost per pupil. I am suggesting in this amendment we strike that from the bill. That would be part of the process of rule and regs and that the people in the Department of Ed that have had far more experience creating reimbursement sort of formulas than we've had here, allow them the flexibility to do that, and do away with this cost-per-pupil language. So the first part of my amendment would strike lines 21, 22, and 23 on page 1. The second concern that we understood that Senator Wickersham had involved language in 12 or 13, language that says either within the district or through agreement with one or more other districts. That language would be stricken, and my understanding of the concern there was that there was a concern that that language might limit the applicability of things like on-the-job training, specialized tutorial experiences, individually prescribed educational and counseling programs. The original idea of the language in 1250 was to make this alternative education to be as broad as possible, and not be a narrow prescribed approach. If there is a concern that this language, either within the district or through agreement with one or more other districts, is too confining, I would propose to eliminate that language. That's the amendment. Senator Wickersham, if you are prepared, I yield time to you. If not, I'll just waive off and let the discussion continue.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wickersham.