

with the law that covers state employees, and that is that under 365, as it is drafted, even though both parties agree to go to the special master, the items could be very limited in scope as the bill is drafted. What the amendment does, would require that there would have to be a group of issues, one of three or it could be all three, but the issues would need to be grouped. All aspects of wages are a single issue. All aspects of insurance are a single issue, and all other subjects of negotiations classified in broad categories are a single issue, and the purpose of the amendment is to assure that some isolated disagreement that might have relevance to the issue of wages, for example, as a whole, could be...would not be isolated, but the total wage package would have to be looked at in the area where there was a disagreement. I think it gives a balance, a better balance to the proposal. It's consistent with what we have for state policies and state employees, and would, I believe, insure that those aspects that were taken but to a special master that a total concept of the items that might be subject to negotiations be looked at, at least in those three categories I outlined that is in the amendment. I would urge the body to adopt the amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I rise to support the Warner amendment, and I rise to support LB 365. I have received in the mail as I think you have, too, in the last couple of days, basically from school boards decrying the fact that this is an even-handed proposition and that is exactly what it is. A special master is used oftentimes when there remain factual issues, which are best looked to to the special master to take up. It's a fair procedure which can only be agreed to when both parties say yes. So neither side can be forced into the use of a special master. I support first the Warner amendment, and then the underlying bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Madam President, and members, I rise to support Senator Warner's amendment. I appreciate his help in further refining the bill in limiting the scope of the role of the special master.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Abboud. Senator Lynch. Senator Wesely, did you wish...there is no need to, Senator,