

SENATOR ROBINSON: It was my...you called on me. It was my...I was up.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: You called the question, Senator. I say that's it not...

SENATOR ROBINSON: I cannot speak then, is that correct?

PRESIDENT ROBAK: I believe you cannot speak, Senator.

SENATOR ROBINSON: I can or cannot?

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Cannot speak. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, and I will yield some of my time at the end to Senator Robinson. Wanted to make a couple of comments. Number one, if you don't agree and...if you...we did not bracket the bill prior to this. If you agree to any amendment, it will be the same thing as bracketing the bill. So if you want to...if you didn't want to bracket the bill, you don't agree with the amendment, because that will bracket the bill because we won't have the bill back in time, certainly, to vote on the final day. So this amendment would bracket the bill, and that's the main reason, number one, I'm not supporting it. The second reason I'm not supporting it is...is...I am awake, Senator Witek, I'm very awake on the issue and the issue I hear is a wealthy elite saying that we spent our money, and, gosh, you know, other poor out there, whomever, they don't have the monies to do so and until we get our money back, we don't want anybody else to have any of that money. And I'm appalled at that philosophy, absolutely appalled by the philosophy. My school district is one of those, and one of those schools that I've talked to, and I said, look, we want in our state to have educational opportunity for every child and every school district, and if there are some wealthy districts or even unwealthy school districts that are progressive enough to move in the area, bravo, great, super, glad you did it, but not everyone does that. And while those school districts will already have the edge, they can go onto the next step if they so desire and we, as a state, recognize what they did and said, you are right, you're the leaders, you're the cutting edge of it, we're going to bring the rest of state up with you. And to sit here on the floor and say, we can't do that unless they all get their money back is absurd. I feel like I...the argument is