

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SPEAKER WITHEM: ...to distribute the school weatherization money to school districts to buy satellite dishes. And that's...I still contend that's the basis of the disagreement. It's a program that will deal with an outdated program that doesn't need...we don't need anymore, and put the money into a program that is needed. And for that reason I continue to be supportive of 860, am not supportive of the Beutler amendments. I thought maybe at that point he might have been right, we had not adequately discussed the equalization versus categorical aid debate, this is a small amount of money that is currently being distributed as categorical money, will continue to be distributed as categorical money. I would urge you not to support the Beutler amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, let me...let me proceed with the attempt and try to get past this of clarifying some things in the bill, some intent, so that that is done. Senator Robinson, if I may, I wanted to ask you some other questions. I'll start on a different part of the bill so that we don't get hung up entirely on buildings. But in the bill there are at least two different priorities, the first priority being the direct connection, and then subsequent priorities may include a number of other things. In the first priority, and by the way both of these priorities, I assume, are governed by those subsequent provisions of the bill that say that funds shall be awarded on the basis of need, ability to pay and number of buildings. Is it your intent, Senator, with regard to the first priority that every school district who applies for a first priority grant should be awarded that grant before you go on to the second priority grants? That is, what I'm trying to get to is it may be that the school districts that are left at the end of the first priority round are some fairly wealthy districts. Is it your intent that you go on through that first priority category regardless of ability to pay, basis of need and number of buildings? In other words, those three qualifying criteria are they to apply first to the first priority category and you satisfy all those people, and then you move to the second priority? (inaudible)...

SENATOR ROBINSON: Are you saying this should everyone be, before you go to the second priority, everyone should have the