

and I'm going to support my amendment too. And if this approach does not succeed, then I'll take the other approach and try to strike individual items. But in any case, I think there needs to be a thorough discussion of each item that the Appropriations Committee brought because there are some that I think are far more important than what we find in that package and those items are not touched. Even though I'm in favor of this Textbook Loan Program, I see probation officers as being a higher priority than this one. If the total amount involved in this whole program in terms of what we'll fund this year is \$45,000, that amount of money can be begged in church offerings on one Sunday morning if these people are serious about providing textbooks for these children. And by that I mean there are some religious groups who would see all children as being entitled to aid so they wouldn't just hustle money from their congregation to take care of their particular private schools, but they would make that money available to purchase textbooks for any child in any nonpublic school who has need of such books. So since that money is procurable some place else, it has a lower priority in my scale of values than probation officers.

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: We know....I've talked nine minutes already?

SPEAKER WITHEM: Six minutes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I thought at first about giving some time back but now that I see the battle lines have been drawn and the cudgel has been thrown down, I'm going to take every minute of my time. Since the budget committee, the Appropriations Committee, met at seven-thirty and apparently put all this material together and gave it to us when we first arrived, there has not been sufficient time for me to even read everything on it let alone evaluate and digest it and establish priorities. But there are some things that jumped out at me because from the Governor's veto message my attention had been focused on them and I wondered what the Appropriations Committee would do with reference to those things. I'd like to ask Senator Wehrbein a question.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Wehrbein, was this item just added as a sweetener or the committee really felt that it was more