

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members, I'll just say one thing and then I'll let Senator Lynch have my time so he can finish his thought. On the textbook loan thing, and the budget itself, as I've said before, I'd like to have it all back. I'd like to be able to override the whole veto, both years, but given the last vote on when we finally moved the budget on Final Reading, I know that's unrealistic. For some reason a lot of you think that the Appropriations Committee didn't do well. I'd like to see some chapter and verse in writing on that some time from some of you. But the other thing on the textbook loan thing, the thing that really irritates me about the textbook loan money, that case was won in court several years ago that the children, the parents and the children may borrow those books. They have a good working relationship with the public schools on it. It's a program that's working, but the Department of Education is still angry. They don't like the program, they try to get rid of it every year. They don't want to do it. So from that point of view I just think we should leave the \$45,000 there and I will continue to support that. Now, Senator Lynch, would you like the rest or my time?

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Thank you very much, Senator Crosby, I just want a chance to get one more shot in. I'm heck of a lot more concerned to make that we take care of those people who are in serious need. I'm not talking about ADC or anything in that category of need, I'm talking about people with disabilities, handicapped folks and in fact, the staff that for the most part work at less than in some cases minimum wage I think by the time they put in their time as we consider the time they spend. And as far as I'm concerned, been working for a long time to try to find a resolution to that problem. We finally found it with the help of all the members of the Appropriations Committee in the pay equity bill and the DD bill and the mental health bill, been 14 years with mental health. As far as I'm concerned the people with disabilities, mental health problems, the handicapped and the others who have been waiting all these years are a lot more important than the crooks and how they're treated or those who are purported to be crooks and as far as I'm concerned this kind of a strategy where we take apart what's in the package and one at a time discuss them really serves no good purpose as far as I'm concerned at this point in time. I had my light on early. I was going to call the question earlier just before the