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teachers merit pay. That's what they had said that they needed the monies for. And now they're taking that fund, dissolving it, taking the money out of that fund and putting it into a COLA for all state employees. I don't think it's right the way this is being done and I just wanted to make sure that was on the record when this bill, I assume, advances. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Witek. Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Madam President and members of the body. A few questions that I need to ask Senator Wickersham, please.

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Senator Wickersham, a few days ago you and I had a discussion about the amount of dollars it was going to cost the schools, local schools, on a teacher. Would you explain that to the rest of the body a little bit.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Well, if I recall correctly you assumed a \$30,000...

SENATOR JANSSEN: That's right.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: ...salary. And if I remember correctly the number I gave you, based on a \$30,000 salary, that the additional cost in a school district would be \$60.

SENATOR JANSSEN: That would be \$60 per teacher, right?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: At a \$30,000 salary.

SENATOR JANSSEN: At a \$30,000 salary.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: However, because of other changes, the school district might or might not actually incur or have an additional budgetary need or, I shouldn't say budgetary need, an additional property tax dollar need because of the way HELP interacts in the state aid formula.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Now if I understand this right in talking with you about that, it would...when the HELP money would come in, it would come into a school, that was figured against any of the