

pass this piece of legislation and that's what this reconsideration motion is about. Well, I want to talk to you a little bit about fairness because, in dealing with my constituents, or some of them, I should say, they're faced with this fairness issue. They're faced with a reduction in state aid of 1.8 million dollars. They're faced with the issue that we'll probably enact a lid, around 2 percent, for the coming fiscal year which will allow them an increase of 600,000 next year for their educating of our youth of this state, which will leave them with a 1.2 million dollar shortfall in their budget and they'll be under an obligation to balance their budget, so they'll have the dubious decision of reducing their work force in their school system by 25 teachers. Now I...it baffles me how this will help education in our state. It's going to hurt that district. It's going to hurt the youth of our state. It's going to hurt the educational quality of that school system and, to me, that's not fair. It's not a fair deal at all. And I think we have to look at this bill in the entire context of what we are doing this session.

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR ABOUD: This bill...this bill is not about shifting of equalization, moving money around. This has very dramatic impacts on the districts in this state as a result of what we are doing with our property tax package. Now, I haven't been a part of this bill, LB 1050. I didn't introduce it. I have no bills that deal with the property tax issue that are before us, and I do support that issue, those bills, but it's being thrust upon myself and my district and other state senators and we're left with the issue of having constituents coming to us and talking to us about, if you're so concerned about education then why are you forcing us to fire teachers? And that's what this bill's all about. Now I'll support the reconsideration, I mean if that's what the sponsors of this particular proposal want. It's not going to make much difference to me one way or the other. But let's be honest about what we're voting on here and we're voting about more money for certain districts, period.

SENATOR CROSBY: Time.

SENATOR ABOUD: Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Abboud. Senator Bromm.