

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Senator Bohlke, you explained what the proposal did several times on the floor. I understood what it did in committee. I don't agree with it.

SENATOR BOHLKE: But did you say in the transcript that...what I have, it says it...that you said it causes the option payments to be distributed out of an income tax rebate fund, so I mean I wanted to make sure you and I had that clear understanding of what it was doing.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: No, I.. no, I understood it did that.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Thank you. And I think that that's part of the dialogue that Senator Wickersham and I had previously and I think there was that understanding. But I do believe that what Senator Wickersham has been trying to point out is that when you see what the amount of the money would be it causes one to reconsider that. But I believe that everyone has pointed out what it does to the formula; that it is a negative; that it moves us backwards and so that those of us who believe in equalization, who have worked very hard to get equity into the formula, stand opposed to costing that equalization formula almost 17 million dollars. So I remain opposed to the Wickersham amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Madam President. I'm not quite sure what Senator Bohlke is suggesting. If she is suggesting that on General File, by the fact that I understood what the proposal did and realized what it did, that somehow I agreed that that should always be what we would do. I...I think that's unfortunate. Understanding, appreciation, realization I think are different things than a lifetime agreement. I didn't sense that I had any lifetime agreement to support that proposal, although it's my recollection that I voted for that segment of the committee amendments. I think that perhaps Senator Abboud has made the more valid point, is that as we all analyze what we have done that we, even arguably, we're entitled to change our mind, if that's what occurred. I'm not going to suggest that that is necessarily what even occurred on this particular issue. But I am, again, concerned about what I hear from some of the