

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Bromm to open on his amendment.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Lieutenant Governor and fellow senators. This is AM3584, which I think is on Journal page 1115, and let me say that as we've gone through this process with this bill and those who have spent a good deal of time on it, I respect the effort that they've put into it, the compromises that have occurred and I genuinely do appreciate the leadership of the Education Committee as well as the committee and the work they've put in, and this amendment is not intended in any way to reflect that I don't respect that. What this amendment would do, at least the intent of the amendment, and there may be some technical aspects here that need to be refined, but this amendment would basically delay the implementation of 1050 for one year. Those parts that would be effective '96-97 would be delayed till the following school year, '97-98 for example. Now, you know that I was interested last year and am still interested in the alternative education mandate that we passed last year and I did not touch the effective date, I did not touch the language in 1050 which delays the implementation of the alternative ed mandate for six months. That is left as is and I'm sure that I will be somewhat chastised for that, but that is a portion of the bill that delays implementation of something which our schools need time to respond to and which we don't have the regulations yet to know how we're going to have to implement it or how much money it's going to take. So I think it makes very, very good sense to continue what Senator Bohlke has inserted in the bill and that is a six-month delay in the alternative education implementation. However, the rest of this bill, as we've seen just this morning from having to repeal the special ed amendment, which was recently placed on the bill last week, this bill has a dramatic impact, even though you can argue that the net shift of dollars is, when you put everything together perhaps you can say the net shift is not that much at the beginning, it is a major policy decision and it can't stand alone when you consider that somewhere around 60 to 70 percent of the financing of our schools comes from property tax. We have begun the property tax debate. I think we had very good debate yesterday. We need more debate on the property tax issue to know how that's going to play out in this body. We're also very aware of the petitions that are circulating. I think the