

NSEA-Farm Bureau petition has a very reasonable chance being on the ballot, probably the Jaksha petition has a reasonable chance as well, there may be...and the other petition may very well be there in addition to that. I would submit to you that if any of those measures are adopted by the voters, those petitions, or if we see fit to do certain things in the Legislature here with regard to property tax, it will have an impact on the way we finance our schools. I think many aspects of 1050 are admirable. I think there are some good policy proposals in 1050, but I am convinced, not just because of how it affects my districts in my...in the 23rd District, because some are helped and some aren't, it's a mixed bag to some extent, but I am convinced that this process is ahead of its time. I am convinced that there are still problems with the formula and not the least of which is our failure to adopt Senator Robak's proposal to inject wealth into the formula. That is a legitimate, that is a legitimate proposal if you're going to revamp 1059 to the extent that this bill does it. I am serious about this amendment. I think, from a policy standpoint, if we delayed implementation for another school year so that we could reflect on what we've done, so that we could come back and clean up anything we need to clean up or restructure anything we need to restructure after the elections this fall, that that would be the very wisest course of action. I think we could not be very severely criticized for doing that. When it comes to a major policy decision as important as school finance is, as important as it is to educate our children in a fair and equitable manner and see that they all have the opportunities to be educated, I would always err on the side of caution rather than expediency. This is a short session and I'm not saying that you should never pass a major bill in a short session, because we're going to be doing that. There's no question about it. But we're going to be passing some major bills that we really have to pass that are very...I think that we're near a crisis on the property tax situation. There are other major bills that we will very definitely, in the budget situation, we'll definitely see that we have to do some things, no question about it. This is not a bill that we have to do. There are some good policies in this bill. There are some questions as well and, for me, there are more questions than there are answers, and I would feel much better and, in fact, I'll even go so far as to say that I will cease resisting the bill, unless there are some onerous amendments added after this, if we delay the implementation in the manner that I have suggested. Now, if there are some