

need to wait and see. This is the numbers. This is what's going to happen. We don't need the delay. We spent a lot of time on these issues, a lot of debate, a lot of discussion. It's to Senator Bohlke's credit that she's been able to get a bill to us at this point. We don't need to delay its implementation, and I would not...I would urge you not to support the Bromm amendment.

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

SENATOR ABOUD: Thank you, Madam President, members. You know it's interesting, I think I'll probably follow up on Senator Withem's remarks here, since he decided to bring in LB 1114. But one of the features of LB 1114 that reduces our school district levy to \$1.10 is the feature that it doesn't go into effect next year. The bill has a built in implementation date of going into effect beginning January 1, 2002. Then it drops to a \$1 in 2002, goes to \$1.10, 1999, January 1st. So it doesn't have an immediate impact, as this bill will have. Now I've told you about the impact on my district. Senator Brown represents it, Senator Jensen represents the District 66, and we will have an immediate impact of a reduction in the amount of teachers by a minimum of 25 by the passage of this bill, and I assume the implementation of the 2 percent lid. Now that's the reality of it. I know it's going to benefit your districts, some of you, people that are voting for it, it's going to benefit your districts. But understand that there are state senators here that will have a very harsh and tough reaction to the passage of this bill. And Senator Bromm has been willing to... I'm going to be supporting his amendment to move the implementation date back one year. I don't know if they can work things out in a year period. My belief is, though, that the sponsors of this bill, since they feel they have 25 solid votes on it, will not make any type of compromise, they will not make any type of change, because they feel they have the 25 votes and they see no reason to make any type of compromise, which I feel is not in the best interests of education in this state. I think that that's a very...it's going to have a very harsh reaction to the people in District 66. We'll have fewer teachers that will have to be fired in Ralston, but it certainly will have a certain amount of riffing that will take place, because they lose, I believe, in the neighborhood of 800,000 and with the lid they will not be able to make up the difference. So you've been criticizing some of these school districts for