

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Hillman. I would, and I want to again clarify that I, for the body's sake, I am not bringing this amendment to a vote because I concur, it's not the right time. My purpose is, as Senator Kristensen pointed out, and I hope I'm not saying it incorrectly and I'm sure he'll correct me if I do. Senator Kristensen is absolutely correct when he talks about the Revenue Committee making a jump. For example, if you go from wherever they're at to 8 percent, they have two years to look at that and they will have to totally redo, I suspect, their distribution formula, and they will try to make that work. And they probably can make that work, though at, obviously, as everyone else going to have a lot of pain involved in that. This will be at the same time when we are doing business incentives, like the Union Pacific bill, and others on the Micron bill, where we're actually asking community colleges to do more training, we're going to have them cut back. So the Revenue Committee basically said, look, we'll give them two years prior to it being enacted, and that goes to eight. And there's another, you know, period of time, a year, I think, where and then it goes to four. And I may be wrong, maybe it's two years. But it then goes to four. And it's kind of a gradual step to where we're eventually going to be. I concur that the gradual step makes more sense. Where Senator Warner and I, I think, are disagreeing, but I think deep down we're not disagreeing, one of us is willing to admit it and the other one is not necessarily willing to admit that now and may not actually believe it now, but where I'm trying to get the people to understand is when you get to that four, yes, the community colleges will have to reassess their budgets, yes, they're going to have to find a different formula. But when you get to four, it's done. We're done. And there may be other alternatives out there, but the bottom line is, they're going to have to be able to get 40 to 54 million dollars or whatever is above the 4 percent where they needed to be, or they become under us and we give them what they need to function, which is around \$54 million...

SENATOR WILL: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...today, it'll be higher later. And I want the body to understand that. And it's one thing to say, yeah, it's something that we need to put off. And I agree with that, it'll be a decision later. But don't leave here today