

some additional representation from the educational community. So, whereas that original amendment that appeared in the Journal had three representatives of local political subdivisions, this provides for five representatives, one from municipalities, one from counties, and three from the educational community. The other...the other difference really is that we are attempting to do something I think along the same line as what Senator Warner did with the 206 process, and that is we added a paragraph that says it is the intent of the Legislature that each Standing Committee of the Legislature shall undertake an interim study during '96 to identify unfunded mandates and recommend the modification or repeal of unfunded mandates impacting the subject matter jurisdiction of the committee, and each Standing Committee would report its findings to the Task Force on Unfunded Mandates before November 1 of '96, and then the task force considers these findings in its recommendations. I found in discussing LB 299 and 1114 with local school districts and representatives of towns, mayors and so forth, that one of the first things that comes up is that if you are going to crank down the lid on spending and you're going to limit our ability to levy taxes, then, for heaven's sake, at the same time, would you please take a look at whatever requirements you're placing upon us that we could dispense with that are not paid for by the state. And so I think it's appropriate to do it at the same time that we are preparing to impose these lids, spending constraints, and levy caps, to make a concentrated effort to identify any of the areas, whether it be towns, or counties, school districts, or other political subdivisions that we have inadvertently or consciously imposed some unfunded mandates. I think if we undertake this process during 1996 while we are waiting for some of these constraints to be imposed, that the timing would be very appropriate. Now I apologize for the copies of this amendment not being circulated. We just got it drafted just a short time ago, and copies are now being made. They will come to your desk very shortly, but you could look at.. could look at the Journal, and I will get the page for you here shortly. We have AM4023 in the Journal, which is very, very similar. The concept is all there. As I mentioned, we've only added additional representation from the educational community, and then the language regarding individual committees undertaking the effort to do an interim study on unfunded mandates in their respective subject areas. So I have my light on, and I will come back to you with more discussion, but, hopefully, the concept is one which the body can see to support.