

two, three, four, but say academics under no circumstances shall be the first item cut?

SENATOR BROWN: I'm not sure that I would want to say that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So there are circumstances where it would be better to cut academics than band, in your opinion?

SENATOR BROWN: Yes, and I think it depends on the context of what the amount of the cuts are and what other things are available for cuts.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Would any of it have to do with whether or not you had somebody in your family in the band?

SENATOR BROWN: I actually do have somebody in the band, and I think it's been a big part of his educational experience.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: I should have picked a different item. (Laughter) But here is the point that I'm trying to make. A lot of times there is serious discussion which is valid about the importance of education, and with that discussion I cannot disagree. Then we move a step further and talk about the need to ensure education for the children. But then we hesitate to cross the line that would require us to do something to ensure that that education is going to be available. I would like to ask Senator Lindsay the question that I asked Senator Brown about drafting an amendment that would say academics are not...shall not be the first thing cut. Would you be in favor of such an amendment as that?

SENATOR LINDSAY: Oh, sure.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Lindsay.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. He said, sure. He answered. I would like to ask Senator Warner a question.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Warner.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Warner, you are the introducer of this bill, but I know pride of ownership or authorship has never hindered you, but I'm going to ask you this question because your name is on the bill. Would you support such an amendment