

it. They're going to have to use that money, they're going to have to use that money to keep their schools going. I think this is one of the best amendments that we've had because it is going to help the schools get by. And I think everything that Senator Janssen said is true. We have to give them some too's, and I think this is a small one. And I think we should defeat the last part...the Warner amendment and retain it in the Janssen amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President, members of the Legislature. And I don't see Senator Wickersham here. I think what Senator Wickersham was describing goes like this, and that we...when we first looked at this amendment, obviously, thought it had some real attractiveness to it. And Senator Wickersham explains to me, and I'm going to try to put it in my terms because I'm not the retirement guru, I'm sorry, I can't do it. But it goes something like this, that if a school has the opportunity to make some changes in its staff and faculty that it could buy out teachers who are nearer to retirement and pay them some sum. Generally, what happens, and that's where Senator Robinson goes, is that you going to have some expenditure to buy them out early. What the second part of the story is, and I think Senator Wickersham was trying to explain, is that those teachers are going to be replaced by different teachers who have a different salary levy, which will probably be lower. So there will be a savings in the salary that you're going to pay the new staff person a lower salary than the person that took early retirement. And the difference in their salary is what's used to fund the purchase of the early retirement for the other teacher. And I think that's what Senator Wickersham was saying, in fact that they could handle that within the lid because they're going to pay the replacement teacher less than they are the teacher that they bought out early retirement. And I guess that's what I'm struggling with, Senator Janssen, too, is after listening to Senator Wickersham's explanation of should that be within or without of the levy limit. And Senator Robinson referred to this as a spending limitation. I think this is a good opportunity to take and remind people LB 1114 is not a spending limitation bill, it's a limit on levies, in other words, the ability to raise money, not the spending. That's the next bill, and that bill is for the transition period of going