

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. President, and thank you, Senator Withem, for yielding some time and if I have some left I will further yield it to Senator Janssen if he would like. In meeting with a number of the concerned schools about this legislation and their personnel, administrators and board members, it was expressed very clearly, I know to me, that at the same time that we are doing some of these things with regard to looking at holding down expenses and putting lids on people, levy limitations, that it would be most timely to try to identify and review any programs or services that we are requiring political subdivisions to do, and not just schools but other political subdivisions as well, that may cause their expenses to be higher than would be necessary and to take the same aggressive approach at looking at those items as we're...as we have done with the tax issue this last year would be very much in order. So this is intended to encourage committees of the Legislature to do just that and to appoint a task force to pull that information together on unfunded mandates and to report back to the Legislature before the '97 Session with recommendations for any changes to state law that might modify or repeal any identified mandates that have a fiscal impact on political subdivisions. Certainly, as Senator Withem indicated, there are some requirements or mandates that are necessary and that are good that we would not want to do away with, but there may be some that could be done away with and we want to search for those, find them, and make it possible for local political subdivisions to save some money along that line if we can. The changes to the original language that Senator Janssen and I had introduced, and we withdrew the amendment on General File to work on the language, primarily are, as Senator Withem indicated, making this...certainly we intended it for each committee to be encouraged to undertake this study but not to require them to do it and so this would just encourage the Standing Committees to undertake the study and report their findings and the task force to pull that information together, and that's really I think about it. At this time I wouldn't want to prejudge what subject areas they might delve into or what might be necessary to keep in statute and what we might be able to repeal. That would come after the report and recommendations. If there's any time left, I would yield the rest to Senator Janssen.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Janssen, you have five minutes.