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LB 149

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Right. Yes.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: But...and I suppose if we don't do that, we could put an A bill in and it will go that way. But the actual increase of expenditures from last year's budget to this year's, if we pass 149, is roughly \$3 million. Is that a fair figure?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I think that's a fair figure. What you said earlier I considered fairly accurate, yes, within...within the millions, where...it's give or take a couple hundred thousand, yes.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Okay. And...and the other point that I want to visit with you and I'd like your opinion on is if at some point in time in this whole state aid debate, because we can get lost in the numbers very easily, I mean I know I can, maybe the rest of them could follow, but I can get lost in those numbers. But if you have the ultimate fight that comes down and says here's the amount that gets certified to the schools, let's assume 149 passes, but the Appropriations Committee feels that, look, we're in a...we need to cut money, we're in a tight budget year. I'm talking maybe not this year but next year. A mechanism to do that is, if the Appropriations Committee or the floor adopts an Appropriations budget that would have, let's say, 10 million, 20 million less in state aid, there's no mechanism to recertify those numbers back to the school districts, is there, that I'm aware of? You're still going to have to write them checks based on what the certified numbers were in the fall.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: That's right.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: And so...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: The certified numbers, right.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: ...if we do anything less, you sort of have an Armageddon because you're forcing the school districts to either come and file a claim against us or a deficit appropriation, take us to court. At some point in time, and I guess I'm looking from a process point of view, don't you need a