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district, not for Senator Wehrbein's district, not for Senator Hilgert's district, but for all of our districts. With that, I'd just like to say thank you and listen to what Senator Bohlke has to say and we'll go from there.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Senator Bohlke, you may open now on committee amendments. (See Standing Committee amendment, AM0328, on page 599 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR BOHLKE: Thank you, Mr. President. The committee amendments...when the bill was introduced we were trying to determine what was the best way to make a final recommendation on which schools may or may not be given a loan or possibly a grant. We introduced the bill that it would go to the School Finance Review Committee. The schools would appear before them, a recommendation would be made, and the Governor would make the final determination. Generally, most everyone agreed that a better way to go would simply be to let the Commissioner of Education make that determination and not have this rather complicated process of going to the School Finance Review Committee. So the committee amendment really addresses mainly that issue. It sets up the guidelines, once again, but it also states that rather than going to the School Finance Review Committee, the Commissioner of Education would make that determination if schools would or would not be granted the loan or the grant. Let me give you an example of when we travel and we hear many times of a small school having a very high needs child move into the district. They eventually get the money for that high needs child, but they...that first year they...they are hit with it, they don't have a way to compensate for being hit with that expense that first year. They would be able to go to the commissioner and say, we had our budget set, we were then found out that we have a high needs child of, let's say in a small school it may be \$20,000; maybe in a larger school that wouldn't be such a significant amount. But to a small school, after they'd set their budget, that would be a significant amount, or 25,000. This would allow them to go to the commissioner, make the case, get the loan, you may call it, and set up a repayment schedule. So the commissioner may do 5,000 the first year and balance it on out over three years in order that they could react in a timely manner and be able to do their