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more importantly, and this gets to what Senator Tyson was concerned about, it also requires them to demonstrate that they know how to teach their subjects effectively and teach their students, that they are committed to their students, and to learning, that they are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning, that they think systematically about their practice and learn from their experience. And I think the reason this is important to do at the state level, and why so many states are doing this, these teachers in order to receive this national certification have to show a commitment to learning in their communities, in their schools, and outside their immediate work area. They are frequently involved in curriculum development at colleges and universities. They work with teacher training institutions. They mentor other teachers. They take those practices and skills that they have learned and they share them and develop them and are on the cutting edge, and that's a service to the state. And that's why I believe it's important that we look at rewarding these quality teachers. Last year I was appointed, along with Senator Bohlke, to a task force from the Department of Educating...Education looking at recruitment and retention of teachers. These bills came out of that process, and with the help of other people in that process. I think there are things we need to do this year. We're going to have an opportunity, and you have on your desks some e-mails that I have to talk about the shortage that currently exists, and we'll be able to address those with this larger committee amendment. But with that, I just wanted to clarify for Senator Tyson that the very things he's concerned about in terms of national standards are part of the national teacher certification process, and also that I hope you will support the amendment, and I appreciate his willingness to move his amendment so that we can adopt this committee amendment which will put parameters on the bill. Thank you.

**PRESIDENT MAURSTAD:** Thank you, Senator Thompson. Senator Wehrbein, on the Thompson amendment to the committee amendments.

**SENATOR WEHRBEIN:** Yes, Mr. Speaker, members, I may have been distracted at the time when Senator Thompson was presenting the bill, and I...so but this does concern...you're going to have more discussion on that, that you've probably just started, but I'd like to ask on your million dollar cap, one thing I did