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daunting task even more daunting; but take, for example, Senator Thompson's proposal, this involves the state spending \$7,500 per teacher who reaches a master level. So what we are really talking about in all of this ultimately is we are talking about the state spending a great deal of money. Currently we have been funneling that money through K-12 education and at somewhere between a half a billion and three-quarters of a billion dollars annually that we spend on K-12 education. Now we are talking about doing something in addition to that. We are talking about some form of direct compensation to the teachers. And you've seen the figures that are considered and they're great figures. And I think everyone in this room is aware of the fact that we are facing a teacher shortage, we are facing an underpaid teacher staff throughout the state. But my concern is that as this task force is reviewing this matter should they consider whether or not to consider or evaluate the business of the state itself in connection with the operation of schools? If the state...currently we're spending three-quarters of a billion dollars, but now we're talking about a substantial additional amount directly to the teachers. And I would like to see that committee also consider the relationship between what we call local control of schools and the state's involvement. So, if the state is going to provide a substantially greater sum of money directly for teachers, to what extent should the state be involved in the consideration of the educational process of the individual school districts and the facilities of the school districts in order to carry out their function? And it seems to me that whether they decide that that should not have any involvement or whether they decide that it should be involved, I think they need to consider that as a part of the process because we are diverting our ordinary method of giving to the school districts and having them pay the teachers on the comparative basis with other school districts and that sort of thing. Now we're talking about some form of direct application. And it seems to me that it becomes kind of a facade to talk about the local control because actually the state is the one that would ultimately be in charge of this. We're trying to ratchet down the amount of local property taxes involved, and it seems to me we're upping the amount that the state is involved. So I think that they need to consider that, so that's the reason for my proposal is that that be a matter at least for them to review in connection with all of the other matters that they are