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to the general school fund and they are distributed to schools, which is fine for a penalty. But as a remedy, the person who is injured is the ratepayer, and the ratepayer should receive remedy. So ultimately we do need to get to a mechanism that will allow us the chance to refund back to ratepayers inappropriately collected money. I salute Senator Bromm's leadership in developing this amendment, and I intend to support it and LB 1285.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor. And I also want to touch on the point that if we can find a mechanism to return money to ratepayers or customers if there's a significant problem or violation, I support that. As you know, we have a constitutional provision that requires all fines to go to school districts. And if it's a fine, we can't and should not circumvent the constitution in that respect. But with respect to penalties that would be imposed to return overcharges or whatever, we need to search for the mechanism language to do that. I made the decision this last couple of weeks that that was something that needed an interim study, it needs a public hearing, it needs thorough examination before trying to jam it into this bill. So it is not included as part of this bill. By this amendment being filed this morning and that sort of thing, I don't want to give you the idea that this language in here is a last-minute deal. The language that's in this amendment has been circulated, it has been examined, it has been torn apart and put back together during the last week or ten days several times. In my file I have Monday copy, Thursday copy, Sunday copy, and now finally Monday copy so it is not a last-minute thrown together deal. I think that we have something here that the industry, and I will not speak for them, but I have been led to believe that they feel this is something they can and will live with. The Public Service Commission I feel has indicated very clearly that this will be of assistance to them in enforcing the orders that they are going to be faced with in the next months and years in this whole area. So I'm anxious to see if there are questions, try to answer them, and just simply ask for your support as we move forward with this legislation. Thank you, Senator Maurstad.