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the General Funds I think goes against all the work the Appropriations Committee had done in the budget process and...unless someone could convince me of why we would do that because...

SENATOR BEUTLER: You would support leaving the \$1.5 million in the Hardship Fund, but not transferring it to General Fund.

SENATOR BOHLKE: It would really be 2 point...it would be 2.3.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, leaving the 2.3 in the Hardship Fund.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Until at least for another year.

SENATOR BEUTLER: But not transferring anything to the General Fund.

SENATOR BOHLKE: At least for another year. I think taking it all out in the one year after it had only been there one year doesn't really make any sense. May I take one 30 seconds or so?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Absolutely.

SENATOR BOHLKE: And I'm not sure if Senator Wehrbein made this point, but if we start back to where we got the \$2.8 million, it came from the Nelson administration with the mitigation funds for small schools. When that hit the floor, we put so many different amendments on it that it made it impossible for any small school to qualify. Therefore, that was left over. When we got to the Hardship Fund last year, we said, gee, here's all this money that was left over that small schools couldn't qualify for because we put so many restrictions on it when it hit the floor that that's what we use for the Hardship Fund. It's that same amount of money that we're trying to use for the schools now who are looking to unify. And I think that gives a little historical perspective that it was never meant, never intended to be for General Funds. It had always been intended to be for small schools who were struggling or looking for a new way to move as far as unification. Thank you for letting me make that point, Senator Beutler, on your time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Brashear, let me ask you, do you feel