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support of this amendment, and I feel the same way about Senator Jensen's amendment that's coming along. Both amendments appeal to me very strongly at the gut level, because if you press me on the issue I'm going to say we do have to have some streamlining of our K-12 administration throughout the state. But I'm not yet ready to impose from the Capitol Building these kinds of requirements on local schools. Now if a year from now we're still going nowhere on school finance and school efficiency, I may well be helping to lead the charge on something like this, but I am not there yet. And that's all I have, Mr. President. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Maxwell. Senator Cunningham, followed by Senator Price.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. Could I have a dialogue with Senator Bourne?

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Bourne, would you yield, please?

SENATOR BOURNE: Certainly.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: Senator Bourne, first, I would tell you that I do respectfully oppose the amendment. I do think the intent is right, but I am against the putting the word "shall" in the bill. But would you agree that in the classroom or salaries in a school is about 80 percent of the budget?

SENATOR BOURNE: I don't know.

SENATOR CUNNINGHAM: I believe it is about 80 percent. That's the numbers I've heard in the smaller schools anyway. And then when you add on the textbooks and all of that, I don't know what percent of the budget that would actually be. But I'd like to make a comparison for you. To me, it would seem like if you take our state budget that we're dealing with now, and if you take K-12, higher ed, Medicaid, prisons, that's about 80 percent of the budget. And it'd be like somebody telling us we had to balance the budget without cutting that. Would you...how would you respond?