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protected. Wouldn't...isn't that the reasonable interpretation of what you're talking about?

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Bourne, would you yield please?

SENATOR BOURNE: Exactly, Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And the types of equipment or supplies or maintenance or transportation or extracurricular programs or capital expenditures would not be those sorts of things that are the minimum required in order to have excellent programs and courses, but would be things that would be extraneous to that. Is that a fair interpretation of your amendment?

SENATOR BOURNE: Yes, it is. And, Senator, I was reluctant to talk about that, because I was afraid of confusing people. But the way you've articulated it is, I think, clear, and it makes sense, and that's exactly the intent, yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, Senator Bourne, in light of that reply, I think I feel very comfortable supporting the amendment, even though I think it's going to create a dialog. But I'm hopeful that it would be a constructive dialog. And certainly, none of us would disagree with the end or the purpose of what's being done. And certainly, those of us who have been around awhile would have to agree that there is substantial abuse...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...out there with respect to the prioritization of some of these items, in particular extracurricular activities, over core classroom teaching. So I'm feeling comfortable to support it, Senator Bourne. Thank you for bringing it.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Erdman, followed by Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature. I was just telling Senator Bourne that this amendment might be the worst kept secret in the history of the