Exhibit No. 5
Date 4-26-07
Bill No. HB 818

Amendments to House Bill No. 818
Reference Copy

Requested by Senator Jeff Essmann

For the Conference Committee

Prepared by Kris Wilkinson
April 26, 2007 (11:02am)

1. Page A-1.
Following: line 17
Insert: "b. Tax Policy and Education Research and Analysis (Restricted/Biennial/OTO)
500,000" [general fund FY08]

Explanation - This amendment provides funding to the Legislative Branch to hire 3.00 to 4.00 FTE for tax policy analysis related to the real property tax reappraisal being conducted during the 2009 biennium and the effects of the reappraisal on education funding, especially as it relates to school equalization funding. There are currently no dedicated legislative staff resources to do tax policy analysis in these areas.

The legislature has to rely on the Executive Branch (Department of Revenue) staff, and is unable to compile independent analysis. Education funding become a major issue and fewer resources are available for this area than in the past. LFD and LSD staff directors will recommend to the Legislative Finance Committee and the Legislative Council a proposal for hiring staff to fill these positions.

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