

February 11, 1991 LB 209

PRESIDENT MOUL: Okay, closing has been waived. We will proceed to vote on the Withem amendment to LB 209. All in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The amendment is adopted and we will proceed with debate on LB 209. Senator Nelson, followed by Senator Kristenser. Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: Madam Speaker, I, too, support this bill. We had a public hearing on it last year. Senator Withem, Senator Conway have explained it very well. Very little, I can add. At first I want to tell you though I had reservations. I thought, is this duplicating something that we already have or are we being somewhat misled, a company coming in here and saying, well, we can provide services? And, naturally, about every program that we talk about there is some good. As I want to tell you, I did have reservations, to begin with. After again hearing the bill in Education Committee, I think for the minimal amount that we're talking the returns could be returned to us many times over in the resources and so on that would be available through this compact or to the body or to the various senators or offices. So, with that, I do hope that you support the bill and it may be a dollar spent and \$10 returned to us. And anything in higher education that can help us certainly can't hurt us. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Nelson. Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you, Madam President. Senator Withem, would you yield to a question, please.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, I would.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Thank you. I think that all of us at some time or another when we see the word "compact" now it strikes our ears a little quicker and we need to talk about what we're getting ourselves into and I'm one in support of this concept but I want to make sure I understand what obligations we're entering into. With this compact, do we need to enter into any sort of contact with the Congress? All compacts need to be ratified or is this one that falls as an exception to being