

that closed part way through. Interestingly enough, this is a pretty important measure to pass. Wasn't all that important when it was introduced, otherwise they probably wouldn't have had me introduce it. But it was...it is important now because the federal government has come up with what they call a teach-out provision. Now this is not a teach-in, some of you may remember from the 1960's, it's a teach-out provision that requires all private postsecondary institutions, and by private postsecondary institutions we're talking about essentially career schools, trade schools, requires them to have some provision in place, in case they do close, to make sure their students do get either their tuition back or get back their...find a way where they can get instructions that they paid for. So it's essential that something like this pass. The third item is an item that, I believe it was Senator Hartnett's bill, that moves the Fire Service and Safety Training Program from the Department of Education, where it has been housed, over to the State Fire Marshal's Office. Both departments are in support of that, as are all volunteer fire departments in the state and I don't think there's anybody out there that has...I guess the only...one person did testify at the hearing indicating that they thought instead of just making this change we ought to make larger changes. But he didn't think that this was necessarily a bad change. That's what that amendment does. I'd be happy to respond to questions.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Withem, may I ask you a question, please.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: You may, yes.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Withem, can I ask, does the wording of this particular amendment, regarding the caucus system for board of education, does that apply to all boards of education?

SENATOR WITHEM: It is...it is my understanding that it does not. LB 96 originally did allow any school board, any residents of any school board, anyplace in the state to move to a different system of election of their school board members. We did have one member of our committee who was rather tenacious, not liking the caucus system, not wanting to see it expanded.