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LB 543

their children, they do wear clothes that are whole, not holey. And I don't mean holy in the sense of religion...religious. I believe that this time we ought to go with the Governor and not put money into this budget which he did not. I don't agree with him on many things, but where he is right I agree with him. I don't agree with the Pope on many things, but when he said, stop executions, I believe in what he is saying and I agree with him. Now that he's apologizing for the wrongs that the Catholic Church has done to other people, I agree with him, not only because what he's saying is right, but it buttresses what I've been telling some of my hard-headed colleagues on the floor of this Legislature about the activities of that political body known, that political institution known as the Catholic Church. The money that I'm talking about is designed to find its way into coffers that are sitting in these church schools. This is not a valid program and it ought not to be funded. I don't know if anybody has dared yet ask the Governor what he's going to do about this bill. I'm thinking about asking somebody a question, but I'll think again and I won't.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Maybe that person will volunteer to let us in on what has been going on with reference to the Governor's intention for this bill. I am very serious about this amendment. I want to bring the bill back to Select File so that this \$2.7 million can be stricken from the budget. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Motion to return LB 543 to Select File, Senator Thompson.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body. Senator Chambers said this bill is for teachers. This bill is for the children of the state, the future of the state, the economic development of the state, and our ability to keep our standards and our quality high in our educational system. And I believe it needs to be funded this year. It has been through processes, it's already been passed by the Legislature last year, and it passed with a very strong vote. The money was vetoed out, but the Governor wanted...said at the time he was...wanted to have the teacher task force look at the