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LB 305A, 305

Education Committee, hold OPS to their promise that they will continue to look at this, and in a reasonable length of time address what it is that you and I are both concerned about. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Suttle. Senator Chambers, on the motion to indefinitely postpone.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I have been asked which article did the comments appear in that I'm mentioning. The headline on the article dealt with what they're doing with veteran teachers. The last paragraph, and I intended to hand that article out when we got to LB 305 itself on Select File, but as I began to think about LB 305A I could not just let this bill go across the floor without challenging it. The last part of that article pointed out how, when they resegregated the schools, they promised, they promised to put these veteran teachers, the experienced teachers, the capable teachers into these resegregated so-called academies, of which there are 22. In the same paragraph it was acknowledged that that promise was not kept. Why should I accept another promise? Senator Suttle is a member of the Legislature, as I am. Neither she nor I, individually or together, has a vote on anything pertaining to the budget of OPS, the allocation of funds, the assignment of teachers, the providing of staff, supplies, textbooks. The only place we can wield any influence is in this Legislature and I intend to use mine to the full. During all of this debate on LB 305 I have not read comments by Superintendent Mackiel denying anything that I've said. I haven't read where anybody connected with OPS has said that I'm the one who is telling the lies. They cannot show where I did anything to impede what they claim they intended to do with these academies. During all the time that those articles that I handed out to you all were being written you will not find public statements by me which could be interpreted as harming what they're doing because you won't find statements in there. The discussion I engaged in was on a cable program I do that is aimed at black people. White people watch too. That's where I was explaining to my community the problems I saw with what the public schools were doing against our children. But I didn't tell anybody to demonstrate, to keep their children out of school, to protest in