

May 5, 1981

LB 257

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, the Chair recognizes Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker, in the interest of time, Senator Remmers has in good faith joined with me on this amendment and has signed on so it is now a joint amendment by Senator Remmers and myself and very quickly to tell you what this amendment would do, I want to return the bill to Select File for this amendment. It reduces the present allocations of monies to the weatherization fund from five years to two years. This reduction has been supported by the Energy Office and the Department of Education based upon the known applications, based upon actual applications and some projection. The amendment further provides for an annual review by the Performance Audit and Review Committee and you heard some debate about that yesterday between Senator Wiltala and Senator Warner and at that time they will examine it and they will see what kind of progress has been made and if at that time the monies that are there are not being used, then the money would be appropriated to the State Department of Education to be transferred to the school fund, general aid program, foundation of equalization. So what we have now is a provision of two years, a sunset on it. After that time it goes to the school foundation of equalization and one other thing that it does. It takes the immediate supervision of the program from the Department of Education which they have advised me they would like to have done, place it with the Energy Office because they are the ones who perform the audits and they are the ones who have been doing the work. They have administered the programs and have the expertise to efficiently, and expedite it and their experience I think is valuable. The last thing that Senator Remmers and I do is to strike sections six through fifteen which gets rid of the tax credit proposal Senator Fowler mentioned a moment ago and I want to thank him for being a person who is willing to compromise even though you don't always get what you want in here. That is the amendment and I ask that LB 257 be returned to Select File for this specific amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I want to thank about twelve or fifteen of you that I talked to in the little period of time we had who put enough trust in those of us who have been working on energy that you were willing not to put the other amendment on and who understood that this amendment would be offered and that I would support it and I do support it. And I believe that in the two years that this will function we will be able, with the documentation that is provided in the bill, to walk into this legisla-