

May 22, 1981

LB 472A

to a point in our society where we could tolerate and accept those kinds of differences but in the amendment that Senator Koch has presented to us there is nothing in this amendment that even begins to compare with the kind of testing that we, as a society, did to protect conscientious objectors status. We truly made an inquiry as to how deeply felt the religious beliefs were of an individual who did wish to avoid military service because that person could not in his religion or her religion, kill. There is nothing in this amendment which even begins to say that the affidavit that a parent submits that his religious beliefs or his convictions are genuinely held. Now let us talk what has happened in other states as other states have provided exemptions to their public and parochial education laws to allow private schools. You know what has happened in the South. White children have moved by the hundreds and the thousands out of public schools and have gone into what are known as Segregationist Academies. Those are private schools and they have been able to make that movement because southern legislators were not able to hold firm in their commitment to public education for all and that really is part of the issue here...

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have a minute left.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: ...We have a major breach in the dike where we are prepared to accept an affidavit of a parent that his or her conviction require him or her to educate that child in an unregulated facility. It goes too far. I think at this time we should be prepared to reject the amendment and we should quietly and contemplatively go about our study of this issue and next session we can come back with a carefully defined and refined law and we continue in that way to support the basic concept of our society, a concept of ordered liberty.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion before the House is the adoption of the amendment. All those in favor of that motion vote aye, opposed vote no. Okay, Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, it is five, o, two. My guess is you are tired. Hmm? How do you feel right now? All right, let's do it. What the heck. I have never been in three years in a real filibuster all the way. Let's do it right now. I mean, we've got the lines drawn. We've got four more motions up there. Let's go for it. I have brought down some of the accumulated wisdom of my office. I intend to read you some of my favorite poems. I want to read you some of my favorite quotations. I have a lot of things that between now and eight, nine and ten o'clock I want to talk to you about. Not all of them are