

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I will be brief. I have mixed emotions about whether this bill should be returned to the committee for reasons that might be different from some people who are in the Legislature. If there is to be a public hearing on the entire issue maybe it doesn't make any difference if this bill stays out here or not. Then the Legislature as a whole will be forced to come to grips with this issue. Now I have stood virtually alone on the issue of whether there should be prayer in the Legislature but I have had others come to me on the quiet and say they share my point of view and I notice when I do stumble through like I did this morning I saw Senator DeCamp with his head bowed in meditation or prayer or whatever but there was a great vacancy throughout much of the Chamber so I want to see just how much religion, genuine religion, Christianity or however you want to label it in this body and I think a good way to find out is to debate this bill, up, down, inside out, front to back, north, south, east and west and we discuss things like what I see in this booklet that is used in some of these schools for Social Studies. One of the questions, "Are the Jews still God's chosen people?" Now that would be a very good matter for discussion because one of the Fundamentalists said Jews can't even be saved. So maybe the ones who say Jews can't be saved think Jesus is God but maybe the Jews feel that the father of Jesus really is God who is Jehovah so they can be saved and the Christians can't and I think we ought to go into all of those issues and determine just what the nature of this Christian education is, then find out why it seems to have no impact whatsoever on anybody's life. We can also discuss whether or not facts are taught in those schools. Here is what is purported to be a fact. Last year the Legislature gave recognition to Martin Luther King. I hope it was only because of a lack of knowledge that the Legislature made this special recognition of a man known to be a disciple of Marxism, a man dedicated to violence and the undermining of our society, this year recognized some real American such as Joseph McCarthy or General Douglas McArthur or George Washington Carver, real Americans who did much to make America great. These are things which, if they're circulating out there and the children are being taught these things, the Legislature perhaps should give scrutiny to it. Now the reason I could never follow along with the things Martin Luther King taught was because he was the opposite of what this paper says. He was the one, not a disciple of Marxism, but a disciple of all the weakest traits in Christianity. King lived the concept that if somebody spits on you you don't revile them. If he takes your coat, you give him your cloak. If he forces you to walk one mile, walk with