

January 11, 1982

LB 472A

body has. If you don't believe me, look at my file, thousands of letters. This committee is dedicated to bringing a bill to this floor. If you want 472A and the Christian ministers want it, then so be it. There is a sunset on that bill, June 30, 1982. Mr. Siefkes and myself and other members, Senator Beutler, have looked at all laws of this nation as it relates to Christian schools. You can go all the way to the ridiculous to something which is reasonable. The ridiculous would be to have North Carolina law with no compelling oversight over any school system which says it has religious convictions. What we are attempting to do in good faith and with the Christian feeling, if there is such a thing, is to hold a hearing on ideas as it relates to Christian schools and all interested parties and bringing to this floor as soon as possible legislation which we believe will help the Christian schools survive and function in this state, not only the Christian schools but the Amish, the Mennonites, the Seventh Day Adventists and others and I am surprised at the naivete of the astuteness of those who minister under the Christian schools. We're not going to submarine this, we're going to bring you a piece of legislation which we think we can sell with 25 votes. I feel more confident than ever now since the Governor has already approved one in spite of the fact we've never had a hearing. We're asking you, and we're not going to bleed, we're asking you to return this bill so we can hear it a week from tomorrow in a context of ideas that are being advanced and hopefully we can come out with a bill which will meet the intent and purposes of all your interests and the interests of the committee who deals in educational issues and to Senator DeCamp, the word "tarnished" was a little bit overused today.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR DeCAMP: I'll just call the question.

SENATOR CLARK: The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I do. All those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye, all opposed vote nay.

CLERK: Senator Clark voting aye.

SENATOR CLARK: Have you all voted on ceasing debate? Record the vote.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 8 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Debate has ceased. Senator Stoney, do you wish to close? Senator Stoney, do you wish to close?