

SENATOR STONEY: Senator Koch, one additional question, is this not a proposition that you had offered a couple of years ago you mentioned in the way of a constitutional amendment that was heard before the Constitution Revision and Recreation Committee?

SENATOR KOCH: No, Senator Stoney. That has nothing to do with that amendment and you and I were on the same committee at the time, as I recall. This is only a statement of legislative philosophy of what we believe a public school should be.

SENATOR STONEY: Thank you, Senator Koch. One additional remark in attempting to follow through what Senator Koch has explained when he took it section by section, it appears to be very broad in general language and I think the interpretation subsequently should this become a contested matter would be very, very difficult so I would caution everyone to look at that quite closely. Once again it appears to be rather nebulous rather than being definitive in what it prescribes in the statute. So I would ask that you review it closely before making your final judgment. Thank you.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Cope.

SENATOR COPE: Mr. President, a question of Senator Koch. Senator Koch, I see no fiscal impact. Would you explain?

SENATOR KOCH: There is no fiscal impact.

SENATOR COPE: Now will this do for secondary education what we now have role and missions on higher education?

SENATOR KOCH: Well, what it does for secondary education is what the Legislature is prescribing here in the section where we say that each approved and accredited school shall offer its students grade nine through twelve the following areas of instruction; language arts, social studies, mathematics, science, vocational education, physical education and health, music and art. The total program as a result for grades nine through twelve shall consist of at least 2,820 class hours per school year.

SENATOR COPE: What I would like to know, eventually there will be a fiscal impact if it is carried out, correct?

SENATOR KOCH: Well, the fiscal impact would not be on the state. Possibly it could be at the local school district level because they are not meeting those minimal standards.