

been fairly discussed on this floor the advantages of 305 and some of the disadvantages. I think I would just make two last comments and they are general and philosophic in nature but I think important. Recently we have seen the development of what is called the moral majority in this country and I think that one of the great values of that movement is that it has forced us to think again about spiritual values as opposed to materialistic values, and I think in that regard it represents a very positive influence on this country whether you agree with their positions on individual issues or not. And I am sorry to some extent that they have picked secular humanism as their enemy because there are many people who they would probably identify as secular humanists who are also people primarily concerned about spiritual values, about character. And to that extent the issue in this country it seems to me is distorted. The problem as I see it is rampant materialism and what is happening in our schools today is that we are letting that materialism eat its way down into our youth so that those who are supposed to be most idealistic in our society are themselves succumbing to materialism. And what I mean by that simply is that I think that most of the kids that are dropping out of high school today are doing so for money, for the immediate gratification of a car, a stereo set, not seeing the long term value of vocational education or the long term value of understanding the responsibilities of citizenship in a democracy, without understanding values relating to character, getting along with people, getting along in society, and that is why I want to discourage dropping out of school and doing everything possible to encourage staying in school. There are different theories of education and one of them that I think is true for some people is that they go along and all of a sudden they find something that is of interest to them and they catch fire, they have a catch fire theory of education. And I think that can happen at any point in their life. I think if you keep kids in school one more year, encourage them to finish their high school education, some of them will catch fire. Some of them won't learn very much, maybe most of them, but some of them will catch fire, and some of them will pick up a few more necessary things. Obviously, the old adage is true that you can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink. It is true of kids too. But my point is simply this, if you don't bring the horse to the water, they certainly aren't going to drink. That is what this bill simply attempts to do. Let's expose the kids to education. We have to do a number of other things to make our education more valuable to them, to make them see the value of that education and let's deemphasize the trend towards materialism. Thank you.