

courses to see that they have accomplished what they should have accomplished, deans and counselors that are willing to work with them during the school day or after the school day with their own individual problems as they grow up through adolescence, and developing a broad curriculum so students can identify with what a school has to offer. With that members, I rest my case. I hope that you would both oppose the amendment and the formal bill itself. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch and then Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, 305 is offering an opportunity to speak on the issue of education I think that not many of us should pass up. I will commend Senator Beutler for that. First of all, we talk about some things we legislate in here. We did legislate that every child who has a handicap shall be educated and we say it very succinctly. We also put about \$23 million behind that educational program but in here we do not put that same amount of money behind programs that would meet the needs of other students. I also remind you that it isn't just the student who is dropping out of school who may have difficulty with the curriculum. You have very bright people dropping out of school because they are absolute bored with the lack of a challenge that exists there. Now let's talk about accountability of the public schools and where we are today. First of all, lets you and I be accountable. We are state leaders and we are elected for the purpose of setting policy. Our inaction by our actions on finances I think demonstrates all we want to do is we want to espouse great causes but we are never going to offer a solution to solving the dropout problem. We never will under the present conditions under which we function because for some reason when we get down to fiscal responsibility suddenly that is where we want to turn our heads. Accountability, it all begins first of all with us and the Governor, with the taxpayer at your local school district level, with the parents who are the patrons of that level, with the school boards who are elected to serve at that level, with the administrators who are hired to produce a quality program, with the principals who are hired to supervise and develop curriculum, with the teachers and with the students, and you notice I put the students last because many times they are a part of a holding vat that they have no control over. I know in my mind today we could put students out in good jobs if somebody would let us do that but you have got to go through a certain number of obstacles before you ever get there. If I were a school administrator today I would tell you what the hottest thing would be in the curriculum, it would be computer literacy because the next twenty years that is