

of continuing oversight to see that what I am persuaded now exists continues to exist. But with the sunset provision and apparently with the lack of the ability of either side to draw language that would allow for a testing requirement that would be suitable for the purposes of showing whether or not these children are well educated, I will have to settle with the arrangements, the compromises that have been struck today. I do that recognizing the importance of the value choice that Senator Beutler has outlined that we all find ourselves faced with today. Ultimately I cannot find empirical data to show me that certification of teachers results in higher achievement from students. I can, however, indicate that I think the curriculum requirements are reasonable and since they have been written back into these amendments, the amendments now go a lot further towards satisfying my concerns. I also want to make one final point and that is that this body was well served by not passing LB 472A last year. How much more we know about the question, how much more study we have given this issue, how much more we have plumbed our own philosophies, our own beliefs as to what is important, how hard we have challenged ourselves has all been a product of giving this the deliberate time and energy that we have and for that reason I am appreciative of the body's delay in deliberation which has allowed me the time to further reflect on the value choices at hand and over time, strike a bargain with my own conscience, with the Constitution, with my constituents and with those of other religious feelings that allow me to support the DeCamp-Peterson amendments in the form that they now exist.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I listened to some of this debate in my office upstairs and I was not going to come down here because I have very mixed emotions about this subject. I have mixed emotions about the public schools, I have mixed feelings about private schools and I am going to run you all through something today that I ordinarily would not do. I'm going to tell you a little bit about some of the experiences I had in the public school and maybe it will give you some insight as to why I'm the way that I am and why I have attitudes like I have. I was reared in a Fundamentalist home. I went to church all the time. There was a time when I called myself "saved." I read the Bible constantly looking for answers, trying to find out why somebody of my complexion, supposedly created by God in his image was treated in the fashion that I was treated in the public schools. When I attended Lothrop Elementary School there were maybe a dozen black children and when I was in the very low grades, do you know the first thing they presented to me that was supposed to show me what