

certain provisions of it were struck, the most important provision, that asking for some equivalency if certification was not going to be asked for. That bill would have never gotten out of committee if it hadn't been for the goodwill of two Senators that attached a disclaimer to this bill and allowed their votes to join three others to move it from committee. If the bill hadn't gotten those five votes, I will assure you that my vote would have been there to advance it. What I am saying is that several Senators voted in favor of this bill and it was kind of a general consensus of the committee that we would bring it to the floor for purposes of discussion, and much to my horror what do I find, that we would like to move this bill just as quickly and as quietly across the floor as possible. Now, colleagues, I think we need to take a look at LB 652 as amended by the DeCamp-Peterson amendments and see what we have before us. What we have before us is a bill that is gutted of its most essential quality and that is asking that anyone who teaches a child have some knowledge, have some skills, so that when that child raises questions, that person as an individual can stand before that child, dip into their reservoir of knowledge and offer some perspective on the issue rather than taking that child and turning his mind back into the curriculum. I would like to have you recall what I mentioned earlier the totalitarianism that can exist subjecting students to a curriculum without recourse and basically that is what that equivalency asks for. Over and over again in the committee I asked people that represent the Christian schools why don't you send your instructors to any school. We are not asking for certification. We are not asking for accreditation. But go to any school and get some hours so they can profess some knowledge in the areas they wish to each in. I never got a response for that. So we have ourselves facing the future with a potential problem existing of maybe people just out of high school teaching in our schools in the state or maybe out of the eighth grade. There are no assurances. There are no oversights. LB 652 as it stands before you amended is a sham. It sets up a lay board but that lay board is not like the Board of Education that serves the public schools. It is just set up so that they can pass politely on anyone that they wish to employ.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have one minute.

SENATOR WIITALA: Mr. Chairman, I could talk at length on this, on this issue, but I will yield on this point. Thank you very much for listening. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Vard Johnson.