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batter away at us week after week, month after month, and we get lost in our own sense of what we might think is right or wrong and I think it does help to step back and take a look at what the people out there generally think about this and this public opinion poll shows that at least the people up in Omaha are more than two and a half to one in support of the Department of Education's regulations and I would submit after the most recent incarceration why the sentiment out around the state is probably three, three and a half or four to one against the positions of the proponents of this particular measure. But let me leave you with one last thought before you cast your vote on this and I know most of us have made up our minds anyway but let me just state this because I think it is something that hasn't been said yet. I really have no problem with people exercising their own religious beliefs in their lives but what we are dealing with here are children who are too young to have any formed political or religious views and we are having their religious rights or their political rights exercised for them by very strong-minded, very strong-willed parent and the trouble is it is not the parents that are going to have to live with that decision. It is not the parents whose educational futures and his abilities to cope competently and effectively with a very complicated world out there, you know, whatever their chosen field or profession might be, it is not the parents whose ability to do that are going to be prejudiced by this decision. It is their children's ability to do that and it is not the children that are making the decision. It is the parents because of their strongly held religious and political views that are imposing a decision upon children seven, eight, nine, ten, eleven, twelve years old who are not capable of making that kind of decision themselves. Yet if those children are inadequately educated and inadequately trained because of the sort of stuff that they are taught, and I went over before lunch some of the things that they are taught in these pamphlets, it is not the parents that are going to suffer. It is the children that are going to suffer and the children then are going to carry that legacy with them through their lives. So I would ask you to again focus like most of us have asked you to focus on what is best for people at that age, and isn't it better if the state retains some minimal control like it has now and like it has had since 1925 over what goes on inside the classroom so that if the teaching inside the classroom is truly inadequate, is truly incompetent, and in fact is not preparing children for participation, effective participation in the world, why then we will have some check and some control over that. So I would ask you to support this kill motion to put an end to this concept today. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

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