

PRESIDENT: Thank you. There are a couple who wish to discuss the committee amendments before we go to your amendment, Senator Baack, amendment to the amendment, Senator Baack. So, we'll call on Senator Lamb next. But may I introduce some guests we have in the north balcony, guests of Senator Schellpeper. They are 42 seniors from the Wisner-Pilger School and their principal and their teacher. Would you folks please stand and be recognized by the Legislature, all of you. Thank you for visiting us this morning. You happen to be getting in on an education bill, so this will probably be interesting to you. Senator Lamb, please, on the committee amendments.

SENATOR LAMB: Yes, Mr. President and members, thank you for this opportunity to address the committee amendments before we really get into what will be a whole series of amendments to the committee amendments by Senator Baack and by myself. In the beginning I would like to say that I think there is some merit to what Senator Baack is proposing. But I have some real questions about the specifics and, as Senator Withem noted, we are interested in education and that is our primary purpose in discussing a bill such as this. That certainly is my purpose. One concern I have, one great concern I have is what happens to those students that are left. You know are the educational opportunities diminished for the students that cannot or will not or do not transfer? That is my overriding concern about this bill. It may, it may provide educational enhancement for some students, a few students. But at the same time it...does this bill provide a weakening of the system for the students that remain. But at this point I would like to ask Senator Withem a question about the, I guess it's a technical question about the committee amendments. As I read the committee amendments I'm having difficulty inserting them into the bill and the reason is because the committee amendments say strike original Section 11 and insert the following new section, starting with Section 10, then 12, 13, 14. My question is, what are we doing about those other sections in the bill, Senator Withem? I don't believe it's properly drafted at this point, if I'm not mistaken.

PRESIDENT: Senator Withem, please.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, thank you, Senator Lamb. I was listening to you and also listening to Larry here at the same time. Larry has indicated to me, and this is kind of a trust him sort of thing, or trust the bill drafter sort of thing, he indicates