

hopefully, can use this data when it continues to update its accreditation requirements. This information will be available to policy makers primarily.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Okay, thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Withem, yours is the next light, if you would like to continue the discussion.

SENATOR WITHEM: I will pass.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Smith, discussion on LB 744, Senator Moore next.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I would like to ask Senator Withem a couple of questions if I might.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Withem.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Withem, in looking through the material that you provided to us here and going through the summary of the bill, and so on, and listening to your conversation, I guess I have a couple of questions. One of them is, on the State Accountability System sheet that you handed out where you are showing information about what some states require versus what other states do or do not, and I am wondering, do these other states that seem to have the information that they are looking for, also have a separate Educational Data Collection System, or is that a part of their department?

SENATOR WITHEM: I don't know, Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Well, you know, I guess that leads me to my other question then, Ron, where you were talking about on the other handout the fourth paragraph down where you are talking about the Information Management System within the State Department of Education should be reorganized to collect and analyze information that will contribute to an annual report to the public on the state of education in Nebraska. Could this be done in the department, I guess I am wondering why aren't they doing more of this, why, since they do receive data, don't they, of all of this kind of information to the department, can't they generate that?

SENATOR WITHEM: It is a matter of, and I know this is a story