

SPEAKER BARRETT: Record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, on advancement.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The bill is advanced. The call is raised. LB 336, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 336 was a bill introduced by the Education Committee. It is signed by its members. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 11, referred to the Education Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. I have committee amendments by the Education Committee pending, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Withem, on the committee amendments, please.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. Speaker, the committee amendments I'll very simply explain. This is a bill on the term school district...school restructuring. Keep in mind this is a term that is the generic term to what is going on in the area of education reform and improvement across our country today. It has absolutely nothing to do with the bugaboo term in the Nebraska Legislature, that of reorganization, has nothing whatsoever to do with reorganization. What the bill calls for is four model schools funded in our state that wish to pursue restructuring programs and a number of forums throughout the state that will discuss the concept of school district, school restructuring. The committee amendments are clerical in nature primarily. Number one is we used the term rural forums. What we meant is local forums and we strike the word "rural" and put in the word "local". Secondly, when these grant applications go in we want to make sure that they include within them provisions for teachers being able to participate in the planning process, that a needs assessment take place along with developing a restructure plan and it clarifies that the model programs will be appropriated to the State Department of Education. That money won't stay at the State Department of Education, it will go out to local school districts that are successful in this getting their grants accepted. With that, if there are any questions, I'd be happy to respond to them.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Questions on the committee amendments. Seeing none, those in favor of the adoption of the