

March 14, 1989

LB 336

CLERK: 336, Senator, I have E & R amendments pending.

PRESIDENT: Senator Lindsay.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Mr. President, I would move the adoption of the E & R amendments to LB 336.

PRESIDENT: You've heard the motion. All in favor say aye. Opposed nay. They are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Withem would move to amend. The amendment is on page 1083 of the Journal.

PRESIDENT: Senator Withem, please.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body, the amendment was printed in the Journal yesterday. Hopefully you've had some time to review it. I've circulated some handouts, hopefully they've reached your desk in time for you to take a look at them. LB 336 is a bill we debated again on General File a couple of weeks ago, deals with school...improvement of education quality in our schools. The concept is one of bottom up, bottom up...the term we use is restructuring, bottom up improvements locally planned, attempts to change the way in which schools operate to meet the tremendous problems we have with education in our society. I had an excellent debate on the bill on General File, lots of questions asked, lots of debate, lots of discussion. It was a very positive experience I think for us to be discussing the things that we did discuss. A number of points were brought up that caused me to bring you some additional amendments on the bill. I should also point out I guess that when we got to taking a vote on the bill it did advance I think with a 28-0 vote for advancement. The amendments that you have in the Journal do a number of things. First of all, they provide a little better definition of what restructuring is in the statute. Secondly, they indicate that the money that we're spending for the forums ought to be supplemented, we encourage that it be supplemented by private organizations, helping enhance the dollars that we can put into it as a state. Third, probably the key change that we make, and this is a good one where I guess you convinced me on the floor that a change needed to take place is, originally the bill called for two things happening simultaneously, a group of forums around the state to