

SENATOR LINDSAY: Mr. President, I'd move the adoption of the E & R amendments to LB 250.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Question is the adoption of the E & R amendments. Those in favor say aye. Opposed no. Carried, they are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Beck would move to amend the bill. Her amendment is on page 1167 of the Journal.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Beck, please.

SENATOR BECK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman and members of the body. I'd like to have you turn to 1167 and look at these amendments. They are friendly amendments, at least I certainly believe they are. They don't change the original intent of the bill at all. According to the committee hearing testimony and the Urban League, the intent of this bill is to eliminate ethnic and racial prejudice. And, if you'll look at my amendment, you'll see that I believe that the bill is somewhat ill-defined. Because if you look at page 1, line 20 of the amendments, or that is the bill, what is sexism, on page 1, line 19, what is dehumanizing bias or pluralism. These phrases, I think, I believe from my visit and from some mail that has been sent to me about the bill...feel that these phrases could alter the intent of the bill considerably. All mine do is just simply clean it up and return it to the original context of eliminating racial and ethnic prejudice. I think with this bill we need to do something and that is to send a clear and well-defined message that racism will not be tolerated in our schools. And let's not pass an open-ended bill that will require hours and hours of teaching and perhaps all sorts of topics which could include sexual preference, political party, social causes and the religious faiths. I think we get in real murky, sticky water when we get into something like that. And I just believe in and have from the beginning, and I mentioned it to the members of the committee that pluralism is just too broad a term. I'd like to share just a couple comments with you. In the committee hearing, I had just mentioned that Senator Hall was speaking and he said that I have a number of individuals that I represent who are Hispanic Americans and they are the reason that I introduced the bill. He wants to be careful that we don't have a racist outlook, that teachers don't have a racist outlook, and it's just that they have little or no