

SENATOR PIRSCH: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I rise to support Senator Beck's amendment. I think it must be very difficult to implement LB 250 but I sincerely hope that it would make a change in teacher training in relationships within the classroom. Many times teachers have to deal with what has gone on in the family and that includes a great many things, many things that they should not have to deal with in the classroom, and I have a question for Senator Hall, if he would yield. Senator Hall, to get to the mechanics of this, as I understand it, the Department of Education is going to write what, rules and regulations? How will this be implemented in our teachers colleges?

SENATOR HALL: It will be implemented, Senator Pirsch, by basically integrating course work into the current curriculum.

SENATOR PIRSCH: Do they recommend the particular courses or the particular books?

SENATOR HALL: Hopefully, so that there is no additional cost to the colleges or the universities, they will be able to, and they came in and supported the bill, and said that as long as we can incorporate it into our current teaching curriculum, teachers education curriculum, and they think that they can without any problem. There are currently colleges that offer this type, one in particular when my light comes on I will talk to about specifically, that they incorporate it without any problem and just require it as additional part of course work, or added to that.

SENATOR PIRSCH: So many times, of course, in teaching you learn more than your math, you learn more than your English, within those courses, and, in fact, in every minute of the school day, you are portraying some kind of learning activity, whether it is desired or not, and I sincerely hope that this would help our teachers be more sensitive and more understanding in many ways. In the classroom, Senator Hall, do you know how this would be judged or would a teacher have some kind of onus, if, indeed, they were not competent in this area?

SENATOR HALL: Senator Pirsch, I guess it would be like any other course that they take, it would be part of some course work. If they failed, it would show up as they failed that section of their requirement. Now it does require that, with the committee amendments which basically become the bill, they