

a nine...seven through twelve enrollment. This changes it to nine through twelve. It was the thinking of the committee, and as you can tell, it was a quite complex discussion and a lot of thought here to this, that nine to twelve is more appropriate because those are the grades that more frequently deal with vocational education programs. Thank you, Senator Langford. If you have any questions, any further questions, we will respond to them. That is what...the committee amendment changes the formula from a seven through twelve formula to a nine through twelve formula.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Any questions, any discussion? Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: I just move for the adoption or hope that you accept the committee amendments. That is one that I brought when we looked the bill over and the proposed funding and so on. It was my suggestion then when it was first brought to us that we go from grades nine through twelve, and I very much agree with Senator Withem, the amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Any other discussion? If not, those in favor of the adoption of the committee amendments please vote aye, opposed nay. Record, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of committee amendments, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The committee amendments are adopted. Senator Nelson, to the bill.

SENATOR NELSON: All right. This bill is very similar in a way, LB 447 that we had last year of which was passed unanimously by the body and addressed vocational education. The need has not gone away. It is still there. It was one of the bills that was vetoed by the Governor. It called for 1.5 million, probably in a way too small of an amount for individual vocational ed students. The bill, this year, has some further restrictions on it, new programs and so on, and it does call for \$65 per student that qualifies in all grades nine through twelve. When the bill was brought to me, I felt that grades seven to eight is somewhat counseling, and that, is involved. As most of you know, over 50 percent of the students today do not go on to postsecondary education. This 50 percent that I am referring to need to be prepared to earn a living and vocational ed helps to prepare