

the amendments which are designed to eliminate the very real concerns and very real frustrations some people in the state have about what this bill might do and it will guarantee to them in statute that it will not do these things. So, for that purpose, I would ask you to return the bill to Select File for the adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The question is the return of the bill to Select File. All in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Please record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 2 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to return the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The bill is returned. To the amendment again, Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, I would simply urge the adoption of this amendment. The bill...I guess maybe I just also want to point out to people in the body, that the concerns that the amendment addressed, addressed really only a small portion of the bill. The bill is designed...the bill is designed...I notice Senator Hefner voted no on the amendment. I noticed also the other day Senator Hefner was one who stood on the floor of the Legislature demanding to know how soon the Department of Education could get him a printout on a particular piece of legislation, LB 89. The department, Senator Hefner, has I think one, maybe two people over there manning all of these computers and all of this information that they have and when you ask for...currently, when you ask for a printout on legislation, when you ask for, you know, any of these questions about how a particular piece of education (sic) will impact on local school districts, they don't have the ability to respond. That is the main reason for this bill, is for that type of information, the types of information that we, as policymakers, need to answer. One of those questions we need to ask is how well are our schools doing in producing educated citizens. I don't think well enough. Some of you may thing perfectly well. Some others of you may think they're doing a disastrous job. The point is we don't know at this point and that's the purpose of the bill. And the other sort of concerns that have been raised on the sides really are peripheral issues and really we do need...we do need this piece of legislation if we are going to continue to ask the Department of Education questions about...that require a data sort of answer, we really need to give them the capability of