

want to do early childhood education, plus we'll have four programs that are considered to be exemplary that will...that will, hopefully, serve as models for other school districts in the state. That's basically what the bill does. The bill also, at this point, has a committee, a commission to formulate early childhood policy, as I understand, because that same commission basically exists in another bill that's finding its way through the Legislature. We have an amendment up that will strip that provision out of this bill, so I won't get too much into that. Basically, that's what the bill does. I see other individuals in here have their lights on so I probably won't speak that much more on the bill. I would just urge you to support it.

PRESIDENT: Mr. Clerk, you have an amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, I do. Senator Withem, as primary introducer, has the first. Your amendment, Senator, is on page 439 of the Journal.

PRESIDENT: Senator Withem, please, on your amendment.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yeah, this amendment makes some date changes because this is a bill that was introduced last year and it also eliminates the commission that we made reference to out of this bill because it's already being established in another piece of legislation that's already moved forward. So that's basically all that the amendment does and I would urge you to support it.

PRESIDENT: Senator Ashford.

SENATOR ASHFORD: On the bill.

PRESIDENT: Okay. Senator Wesely, on this amendment? Senator Crosby, on this amendment? Senator Beck, on this amendment.

SENATOR BECK: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I just have a question for Senator Withem if he would yield to a question on this particular amendment, please.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes.

SENATOR BECK: Senator, is this amendment that you have that will take out the commission in 567, is that related to LB 678? Is that...