

PRESIDENT: Mr. Clerk, I understand you have an amendment to the amendments.

CLERK: Mr. President, the first amendment to the committee amendments is by Senator Baack. Senator Baack amendment is on page 893 of the Journal.

PRESIDENT: Senator Baack, please.

CLERK: Senator, this is AM2626. That was the first one.

SENATOR BAACK: Yes, Mr. President and colleagues, I had to check. I had a couple of amendments on this bill and I wasn't sure which one we were going to deal with first. This amendment deals with...LB 1033 was a bill that I introduced before the Education Committee. The Education Committee then heard this bill. There was no opposition to the bill in committee, and then the Education Committee voted it out. LB 1033, what it provides for is a few years ago there was a problem with people in the area of speech-language pathologists, were, up until about five years ago, were allowed to get a teaching certificate even though they had their master's degree in language-speech pathology. Then about five years ago the department made a ruling saying that if they had not received a baccalaureate degree, they could not then be endorsed as a teacher. They would get a special kind of endorsement, but not a teacher's endorsement. This has caused some real problems especially for speech-language pathologists that want to go to other states to practice their, what they do, and what has happened is that other states won't accept them in the teaching field. So what this does is this clears this up and it says that if you have your master's degree in speech-language pathology which is a requirement in this state, you have to have a master's to be a speech-language pathologist, you also can be granted an initial teaching certificate and that will allow them to also go into administration and do some other things and proceed with their careers. That's what this amendment does. It was LB 1033, if you want to look it up. There was no opposition at the hearing. The department needs this cleaned up too. So with that, I would urge the adoption of the amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Withem, did you wish to speak about his amendment to the amendment?