

March 16, 1990

LB 1141  
LR 239

couldn't bring them in. What we said as a...that that wasn't good enough for us. So what we put into the bill is a mechanism...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR WITHEM: ...by which the community college will have their programs, and the theory behind this is a portion of their programs supported by state funds, reviewed by this Board of Regents. The Board of Regents will make recommendations to the Legislature concerning the programs of the community colleges, but they won't be able to tell them adamantly you can't do it. But we, as a Legislature, you sitting on the Appropriations Committee and approving their funds and recommending their funds, you will have some clout to impact upon them as to whether you approve their state aid or whether you don't. So I don't think they are totally left out of the process. It is kind of a little more cumbersome process with the community colleges but we are not leaving them out at all.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Withem, your time...Senator Schimek's time has expired. Your light was next. Would you care to continue the discussion or not?

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, I would like to continue discussion because I am going to urge that this bill be advanced today, partially for the ease of keeping the two bills together, I would urge that...LR 239CA obviously had some difficulty the other day. It did advance but with a very slim margin of approval. I would be concerned if people that were opposed to that would also vote no not to advance LB 1141 because LB 1141 is an important vehicle for us as a Legislature to sort through some of these things, the things Senator Coordsen brought up, the things Senator Schimek brought up. So I'd urge you to give the bill a vote for advancement even if you are not 100 percent sold that LR 239 is the best thing to do. I would like to also speak on why once again I believe very strongly that the recommendations by our outside consultant are valid and need to be adopted, and that we need to send this whole proposition onto the people to give them an opportunity to talk about whether they want greater coordination in their higher education system. I felt bad about my abilities the other day on LR 239 to argue convincingly what I feel deeply the need for the change here and to articulate that as well as I could. I heard some people later on talking about the whole discussion seemed devoid of any