

April 4, 1990

LB 1141
LR 239

I'm not sure this is an area that we actually...we need to do. I think it will cloud more of the issue rather than give us kind of a clear set of guidelines on how we wish to vote on 1141. So, at this point, I would hope that we not agree to the amendment to the amendment, at least at this time. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I'm going to support the Conway amendment, I think, with the inclusion of the language notwithstanding any other provisions of the Constitution, that we hopefully are finding a way to make this compatible with the other provision in the Constitution that says you can't use property tax for a state purpose and allow us to do this. And Senator Lamb was right, which is really a hard thing for me to say, and I'm sorry he's not here to hear me say that. He was, I think he was right. One of the weaknesses that we all recognize with LR 239 is that the community colleges are a major portion of education. And we're not able to include them directly. I think 239 includes them indirectly and provides a degree of coordination among them. And it's much better than what we currently have. I do want to comment on Senator Crosby's remarks about transfer of credits, because I think both she and Senator Coordsen made good remarks on the transfer of credit issue. And she's right as far as saying here on the floor we're going to provide a transfer system so that, if you take economics 101 at Metro Community College, Fort Omaha campus, that that automatically, because at Fort Omaha campus they've called it economics 101, that that automatically will meet the requirements of a degree program at Wayne State College, or at University of Nebraska at Lincoln. I think it's careful that we don't...I think it's good that we're careful and we don't guarantee that, because we shouldn't be able to say that. But what we can do, if we get a coordination body in place, we can provide a system for defining what is economics 101 at Fort Omaha campus, so that when a student takes that class they will know that they are going to be getting the educational concepts of economics there that will become...that they will become transferable. We can set up a process by which we can make these courses compatible, to some degree. They're not, just by merely saying you took a class over here and it had such and such a title, so we'll automatically pick it up. That's the problem that exists today when students do that. I think one area I've been fairly critical of university administration in terms of coordination. I think one area where