

CLERK: 26 ayes, 1 nay, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: The amendment offered by Senator Beutler is adopted. The next amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senators Warner and Withem would move to amend the bill, AM1241, and I believe copies are being distributed to the membership.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: I lost the stair down here with Senator Warner so I will present the amendment. This is a series of, I hope, minor types of problems that we discovered with the drafting, along with some other concerns that were brought to our attention by the Governor's office and other places. I will go through the explanation here and if you have questions, Senator Warner will be happy to answer them. So if you let me go...let me go through what we're doing here. First of all, if you recall, one of the things I did with an amendment on General File was add the naming of the various existing colleges at the various campuses to the bill, defining those as existing programs. There was some concern brought to our attention that by defining those in statute there may be some reluctance to administratively combine some programs in the future and perhaps, oh, just as an example, I know currently the Department of Educational Administration, the various departments of education and administration are talking about combining UNO, the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, Chadron, Wayne, Kearney, and Peru are talking about combining into a single institution. That's the sort of thing we ought to be encouraging, not discouraging. So the first part of the amendment indicates that naming these does not preclude the university from administratively consolidating units. Number two, this was suggested by the University of Nebraska, strikes a cite in the definition of the education center. And amendment number 23 strikes "program review" from the purposes for the establishment of peer groups in the comprehensive plan. We say one of the things in the comprehensive plan they should do is make recommendations on what the appropriate peer groups should be. We are saying they do that for purposes of program review and for other purposes. The university said it really is not a program review function and we agreed with that. Under item 3,