

the international educational system and how some of the children are educated in other countries throughout the world, should be an important focus of that commission. Because we are...when we're competing against countries like Japan, Germany, and other European countries, we do need to revamp our educational system. And it's my hope that the commission will come up with some ideas, that this commission will say, let's focus in on this particular area, and let's put our money in this particular area, rather than the shotgun approach that this Legislature has chosen in the past on spreading the money around with the...our hopes that the local school boards will implement a better educational structure. So I plan on supporting the bill. I think it's money well spent. And I'm happy to see that Senator Withem brought the bill before us. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you Senator Abboud. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam Chair and members of the Legislature, I heard a comment that was made by Senator Bud. Bud, this bud's for you...or this one's for you, Bud. He made an interesting point because the NCAA has undertaken some rule changes that are going to affect the ability of youngsters from inner cities to even enter colleges, period. Great reliance is going to be placed on standardized tests. When this Legislature begins to talk about educational matters and the welfare of students and the purpose for which schools exist, I hope those discussions will not be in a vacuum. By that I mean, it's appropriate in the context of Senator Withem's bill to discuss the wider ramifications of the purposes of education, but when we come to an athletic contest where student still are involved, we'll have senators who will disappoint me like Senator Beutler, who will say that maintaining eligibility and good relationships with the NCAA is more important than this state elevating education as the number one goal and role of a university. Now what the NCAA will tend to do, and it ties into what Senator Withem is discussing in this bill, is take an existing negative situation, where it is known and has been demonstrated over and over, that youngsters in inner city schools, whether they be black youngsters, poor white youngsters, Latinos, native Americans, or whichever group happen to be in those schools, are going to be victimized by an education which is inferior to that given to others who don't live there. So, the NCAA will superimpose a discriminatory rule on an existing discriminatory situation and bar those youngsters from having entry to the schools by way of athletics. I'm opposed to all of those overt and covert tactics