

January 21, 1992 LB 336

SPEAKER BAACK: It is withdrawn. We're back to...we are back now to the Beutler amendment and, Senator Cudaback, did you wish to address the Beutler amendment? Is there anyone else who wishes to address the Beutler amendment? Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, I guess I would like to have Senator Beutler indicate to me, if he could, what other examples in state statute have the...have we told local school districts for what they can offer credit and what they cannot. And if he could just very briefly describe those other examples to me, I would appreciate that.

SENATOR BEUTLER: To my knowledge, Senator Withem, there are none that we have described in those terms.

SENATOR WITHEM: Okay. For that reason, I am uncomfortable, I'm uncomfortable with making education policy in a piecemeal fashion by amendments offered to the floor. I don't think cheerleading ought to be offered for credit for graduation. I don't think some of these other things should. I have troubles though with making a decision without having benefit of a public hearing, without having benefit of input from the education establishment and the parents just by drafting an amendment on a yellow piece of paper and dropping it on the desk up there, beginning this process of us, at the state level, telling local school districts what are credit courses and what are not credit courses. And particularly if we've not done that in any other place, I am uncomfortable doing that at this time and I will not be supporting this particular amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Anyone else wishing to address the Beutler amendment? Seeing no one, Senator Beutler, did you wish to close?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, just to remind you what it does. It simply says that no school district shall offer driver's education for credit towards graduation requirements. Senator Withem is quite correct in the sense that what I'm suggesting to you today is a new path but I offer it to you today for a couple of reasons, one, because the importance of the matter is such that I think the earlier we begin down this path, the better. And the second is the quite obvious reason that each one of us has to make himself or herself comfortable with the bill and I am not comfortable with any bill that has any effect of deleting, diluting further