

February 11, 1992 LB 922

you.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Thank you, Senator Robinson. Senator Bernard-Stevens, you're next.

**SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS:** Just briefly, Mr. President, members of the body, Senator Chambers...and I hope there wasn't any indication, certainly was not my intent, there is no attempt by anyone to snooker anyone here and it is very straightforward what your bill is trying to do. What I'm trying to say is, and I think Senator Withem responded to that, is I have some appreciation for some of the straightforwardness of other bills that we've had that have not turned out well in their interpretation through the Department of Education. And I just want to make sure that our good intentions and what we put on the record here of what we want to have happen is, indeed, what will happen because I do get concerned sometime that we get a bureaucrat within a department that doesn't particularly, for personal reasons, like a piece of legislation which has happened in the past on multicultural relations, didn't particularly like a piece of legislation and made the check-off so difficult that it caused tremendous amount of difficulty and hardship for teachers and schools alike. And I don't want that happening to some small Class I school. I don't want it to happen to some Class VI school that has a problem getting things certified and they are under a tight lid. We've got lots of problems financially. We don't seem to have the property tax situation taken care of yet to help them at some point and I just want to make sure that we are very clear how the Department of Education works with this, how they interpret it and what their intentions are on the check-off program in regard to approving whether or not a school district has within its curriculum or can have in its curriculum the things that you and the good gentleman from Norfolk have worked out and I would hope that we would, before time runs out this morning, adopt the Beutler amendment, move the Bill and then we'll meet, as Senator Withem has requested, and make sure we have all that ironed out and I think we'd all have a higher level of comfortability with what we hope to accomplish here.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Dierks, you're next.

**SENATOR DIERKS:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I just wanted to add my support to the legislation. I think