

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, you'll notice that, if you're paying any attention to this and it will at least be in the record anyway, that the law states, the proposed law states evidence that this is being done. It does not say the curriculum itself has to be submitted. I don't know what form the State Department of Education is going to use for this purpose, but they could have something as simple as saying that the curriculum which you first submitted and which was approved you certify that you're operating at least at that level. I don't know what they're going to require in the way of evidence, Senator Robinson, and I did not think it would be a good idea to try to write statutorily what this would consist of since we're giving the power to the Department of Education. Another thing with reference to this section that I mentioned to you. If you look in your directory of state offices under the State Department of Education, you will find listed this section that I mentioned to you, but since this is a specific program and we don't want it to get lost among other things that are over there where nobody has responsibility for it, an A bill is included because of the importance of what this program is designed to do. If you're opposed to the bill, if anybody else is opposed to the bill, I would rather that there just be a vote against the bill, as it stands, instead of trying to water it down to the point where we might have some words in the statute that give the appearance of dealing with a problem when, in fact, nothing is being done. When I undertake an effort such as this I will do it only if I think the substantive value of the program justifies it. Senator Robinson, when I was trying to get district elections for the City Council and the school board in Omaha, people came to me with what they call compromises such as nominating by district and electing at large. Because I felt the principle of district election was so important, I refused to compromise as they call it. To me, that was an abdication of the entire principle but I refused to go along with that. As a result, there was enough support anyway to get those bills passed. If I were going to take a diluted version of this bill, I've never wanted to get a bill passed just so I could say after my name that I got this bill passed that deals with this subject. I would not want this bill passed just so that I could say that. Those who have worked hard on this bill do not want a pale copy of what it is we're trying to do. Senator Robinson, I'm not