

Let him be in charge of whether the curriculum is being implemented or not. And I would again urge you to vote for my amendment. I think the use of the word "annual" is not needed in this case and I don't think it compromises the bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Madam President, members, I rise in opposition to Senator Robinson's amendment. He stated it would be easy to go out and visit schools and simply ask if they have included a multicultural education into their curriculum. Now I know Senator Robinson knows that this would certainly be a hit and miss type of an assessment and any time I think that we have a major change or introduction into the curriculum, I think that it's wise to have an assessment. I think it's very wise and prudent to have it annually and certainly not to have a hit and miss. It does two things. It provides the Department of Education with an assessment. It also provides that a school district, the reminder that we are serious about it and that they need to assess each year how that is being implemented into their curriculum and so, therefore, I rise in opposition to Senator Robinson's amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Madam President and members of the body, Senator Robinson, where were you when I needed you? I've been trying to get an expanded health education curriculum passed in this Legislature ever since I've been here. I know you weren't here and I'm glad that you are now and maybe you can help next year when I bring it back in again for the fifth year, if I'm here next year. I should add that little caveat. But I would like to just second what Senator Bohlke said and, Senator Robinson, I'm not going to support your amendment. When we talked about it earlier this morning it raised doubts in my mind but after hearing Senator Withem's explanation, you know, it could be the year 2000 before we know whether some of these schools are in compliance or not and I think the problem is immediate and I think it is now and I think that we need to take some kind of affirmative action to deal with some of the kinds of things that are happening in our society. There is an increase in hate crimes, there is an increase in racism, there is an increase in memberships in organizations which are racist in nature and I think the children are the answer to the future