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LB 245

data. I could care less, as a state policymaker, whether Suzanne Withem has a particular level of achievement. I am interested in knowing whether fourth graders in Nebraska can read at a particular level.

SENATOR CROSBY: Okay. Thank you very much, Senator Withem. I do appreciate your bringing that out again because, as I say, I have constituents who are concerned about the cost. They have a \$900,000 figure which we will go back to some of these people and try to find out why they think it's going to add up to that much. And I do appreciate your giving me those answers.

SENATOR WITHEM: Thank you.

SENATOR LAMB: The Chair recognizes Senator Nelson. Senator Nelson. We will move on to Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. Chairman and members of the body, I have several questions for Senator Withem.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Withem, would you respond?

SENATOR WITHEM: Certainly.

SENATOR HEFNER: Senator Withem, if I understand this correctly now, this will be an eight-member board? Is that correct?

SENATOR WITHEM: More than that. I think it's about 10 or 11, because the amendment inserts the words "postsecondary education" and then goes on to include...then you get back to the context of the bill and there is a school board member, representative of business industry, representative of agriculture, so that totals 11, I believe, instead of 8 that are mentioned here in the amendment.

SENATOR HEFNER: Oh, I see. There's eight mentioned in the amendment but there's several more in the regular bill?

SENATOR WITHEM: Yeah, three more remain in the context of the bill.

SENATOR HEFNER: Okay. Okay, how often will these members be meeting?

SENATOR WITHEM: They will be meeting...they will be setting