

September 29, 1992 LB 29

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Elmer.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. President. What was represented by Senator Withem with his testimony about the actions of the Postsecondary Education Commission is correct, and I would expect them to do their job and assess the programs that are being offered at Curtis in an unbiased...in an unbiased and just manner. I would expect that if they found that the programs being offered there as unjustified that they would make those recommendations to us for those statutory changes that might be necessary, if they decided the school was unjustified and too costly. I would also say that in the way that the bill has been introduced, is being promulgated by Senator Chizek, that we would have considerable legal problems because of the obligations to the students who have already begun their training there with the expectations through payment of their tuition and their time to complete their courses of study. So consider all these things at the time that you are making your decision, and I would hope that you will adopt the committee amendments, and if not, to kill the bill.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, the reason, maybe, that I pushed my light, Mr. President, was that during the course of discussion with Senator Wesely, he was asking me questions and, as usual, I took a little longer answering questions. So if he had any further comments he wished to make, I was going to yield the time to him. I guess I would indicate, and I know Senator Lamb and some others were concerned that we were pouring over our bill book back there, just to indicate up front what I was looking at, is there a way in which the Curtis campus could be...we could pass a bill that would leave the Curtis campus as it is but remove this special protection that it has as a special line item, so that as the university considers cuts that it could be equal to others. I hope that is not considered to be too sinister or too evil. If equality is sinister and evil and we must treat some of these institutions as unequal superiors, I am sorry that that is the case, but that is all that I am considering or we are looking at that and we may, in fact, have something for your consideration in the near future. But with that, after I've made that clarification, as I know some people were concerned because we were looking in those evil books back there, but, Senator Wesely, if you want to use the rest of my time, I would