

September 30, 1992 LB 29

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I just was reading Senator Wesely's amendment here and the last sentence caught my attention. What we did yesterday with the bill and what the bill now does is it says, in essence, that the commission shall make its recommendation on what should happen to Curtis by July 1 of 1993. Now, I will say what I think Senator Wesely and Chizek are doing here is clarifying what the original intent of the powers of the commission. I think the way we played around with the issue yesterday it may have sounded...we came up with a potential conclusion that they could recommend that it's not a good program but they would still have to keep the program open, according to the statute. And I think what Senators Wesely and Chizek are doing is just clarifying the original intent of LB 663. My concern with the way they drafted is that the way it is drafted the closure would take place by July 1 of 1993 if there were to be a closure, or the transfer to the tech school, if there were to be a transfer, or, obviously, if it were to stay within the university system, there wouldn't be an impact, but if they would prescribe something other than the status quo, the actual effects would have to take place by July 1 of '93. I don't know if there's enough time for them to make a recommendation that would actually take effect by July 1 of 1993. I don't think it's the intent to speed up anything and so, for that reason, I'm...and I don't think the flow of the rest of the amendment is damaged by striking that particular sentence. So in order not to be accused of abridging what we did with the bill last night, I'm saying that we ought not to speed this up any further than we already have and that's why I'm offering the amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Withem. Discussion on the amendment to the amendment? Senator Elmer. Senator Schrock. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I do support the amendment. I think Senator Withem is right. I would support it.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Dierks, did you wish to speak to the amendment?

SENATOR DIERKS: Yes, Mr. Speaker, I lost attention when Senator Withem was explaining his amendment. Can I ask him to explain it again?