

September 30, 1992 LB 29

SPEAKER BAACK: Certainly. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: And this time pay attention, Senator. No. I would be happy to and I know there's a lot of things that are going on. The bill yesterday...the bill now says the Coordinating Commission will make a review and make a recommendation by July 1 of 1993. Presumably, if they make that recommendation by next July, they will recommend some action to take some time after July 1 of '93. I would assume there would be some phase-in or out of anything they would recommend. The way this reads literally is they would no longer be making a recommendation by July 1, whatever they would recommend would actually take effect on July 1. So, in essence, I think that's putting too much squeeze on the Coordinating Commission and probably isn't fair to the Curtis people. So what I'm doing is what we did last...keeping what we did last night by adopting the committee amendment in place. At least, that's the intent of what I'm doing.

SENATOR DIERKS: So then you are striking a certain part of this...of Senator Wesely's...

SENATOR WITHEM: What I'm doing is I'm striking the last sentence that says, if the commission makes such change to the role and mission, it shall make the change before July 1 of 1993. That's the key language that concerned me that they will actually implement the change as opposed to just make a decision for implementation sometime in the future.

SENATOR DIERKS: Okay, thank you. I would like to ask another question of Senator Withem. In the body of the change that Senator Wesely is introducing here, how would you explain it in layman's terms as to what it actually...what does it do for...(interruption).

SENATOR WITHEM: Well, how I would explain it would be that the impact of this is that...I felt all along that the Coordinating Commission had three choices with Curtis, either to discontinue the program, leave it within the university, or put it with the Coordinating Commission. The statute really only specifically lists those two concerns...two possibilities, keeping it in the university system or putting it in the community college. This makes it clear that there is a third option and they just don't think that that facility would be one that would be continued. I think they have that power through their program review but