

were seeking waivers, and request a rule from the United States Department of Education that the Student Discipline Act is in substantial compliance...federal requirements for gun-free schools contained in the federal Improving America's Schools Act. Those are three different approaches, any of which I think would meet my requirements, simply blind obedience to the federal government when what the federal government is suggesting, and nobody...nobody...nobody has made the argument yet, I don't know how long we've been on this measure, but I don't think anybody has made the policy argument yet that Nebraska schools are somehow going to be better bypassing this. Nobody has made that policy argument, and I think that is maybe a policy argument that we ought to get back and around to. It's kind of interesting, I made reference before to a short book that I admit my reading habits here, a couple of...about a month ago, I think, I made reference to reading the book. I'm still reading the book. I don't have a lot of time for extraneous reading these days. But it's called The Death of Common Sense. and it talks about how we have become in this country slaves to the regulatory process, and that's where we are now. We are being slaves to this regulatory process of...because the federal government has mandated a process, we are talking about how we come into compliance with it. And there hasn't been anybody yet that's talked about, well, what's the goal of all this. Well, the goal of all of this is to make our schools safer, to make kids quit bringing guns to school, to find a way of getting rid of those kids that are genuinely incorrigible and getting them into some other sort of learning environment. Senator Pirsch, by the way, you made excellent remarks earlier, and I agreed with the thrust of what you were saying where you talked about the need to protect the majority of learning students to maintain their learning environment but we can't throw out...throw out the others. Nobody has raised the argument that the motion here has anything at all to do with making schools safer and more comfortable. Senator Chambers, my motion up there is a serious one to amend your bracket motion to allow us the opportunity to take you up on what you had to say and see if one of these three approaches makes the most sense, either not doing it, either making a statement that we're already in substantial compliance and we're going to seek the waiver that you made reference to, or that we deal with the other approach. You know, with that, I'm offering the amendment to your bracket motion.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Withem. On the Withem