

January 18, 1996 LB 900

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Bohlke, why is this bill so important that if it is not passed this session that there is going to be difficulties? I have been on the Education Committee. It is noncontroversial. It's a rewrite of the codes. I see nothing major controversy that this bill has to pass right now or a crisis is going to happen. Can you explain to me what things will happen if we don't do this right now?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Senator Bernard-Stevens, there are a couple of possibilities. One is a real reality. One would be the extra cost involved in reprinting next year. I think you asked about the cost of printing this time, and, secondly, as we would...if we get this up and done early, as we pass other bills related in the education area and that they know this is out there, they can take that into consideration.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Okay, so there isn't really a crisis out there, is that...with the exception we might have to print again. Would that be a fair statement?

SENATOR BOHLKE: I would say that it would depend on how much of a fiscal conservative you are if you would consider it was a crisis or not.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Okay, and as Senator Bohlke knows I am very much on the fiscal conservative side. Unlike Senator Wehrbein, you might be a closet liberal, but...on these types of things, but just to see if you are paying attention there, Roger. The point I am trying to make is this, sitting on the Education Committee, LB 900 is a good bill. It is a good bill. We paid a gentleman and the revisors have worked very hard, the Executive Board paid a gentleman to work this summer to put all of these codes and the education parts of our statutes into a reasonable order. My point is this, this bill is not a crisis bill, yet it has been special ordered today. A lot of us have bills that we think are important. Some of them are going to be large bills, and all of us this year are going to have to try to find a way to get it passed because we are not going to be able to get to regular bills. When you special order something, you assume that it is going to have a major importance to the state that we have to do it. That's...the appropriation bills that we have that need to be done by deadline or stuff that needs to be done. This bill could be on a consent calendar if it is noncontroversial, and I would trust the ingenuity of the Chair