

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

April 27, 1999 LB 144

who, the minute they said "California Achievement Test", went into a catatonic state and didn't come out of it until she was done with the day, and therefore did very poorly on standardized tests. So I don't think that we should...should concentrate on this one test idea. I think that we ought to assess what our students are capable of and let the teachers and the districts on the local level decide what is best for their particular student body. The department asks for a great deal of money to implement this. I don't think that's possible at this time. I think that we need to look...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR SUTTLE: ...at...at being careful about how we spend our money and what we do in the Department of Education. And it has been allotted, with LB 1228, about \$1.7 million, and that will be what is...is allocated for this particular year. So, I would again support the suspension of the rules and urge the body to...to vote yes on this so that we can have this in-depth discussion about the importance of assessing what we have in standardized testing. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yes, Mr. Speaker and members. Senator Hartnett apologized that he couldn't remember my name. I said, oh, "what's her name" is fine with me, (laugh) because I should clarify for you, although the board up here says Bohlke, this is a committee bill. And so I told the committee that I knew this was going to get controversial and I wasn't going to be swinging out there all by myself, that this came out of committee unanimously. And I had not mentioned it really is a committee bill that was brought by the Department of Education to the committee, and it's being presented to you this morning. I...I would support the suspension of the rules, once again, so that we can continue to have, I think, what is an important discussion and debate. And I notice numbers of people going out, trying to make contact with representatives of their school districts. This is, as I said, a very important issue that I think each one of you I hope will be asking the questions before you come to a final determination as to your opinion. And I think the more questions you ask, the more you will realize what