

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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disseminate this information. The one...another concern I have is we seem to be going into generic language which always makes me somewhat uncomfortable. The language that is being crossed out, again, I think is what we should pay attention to, as much as what's being put...put in. We have taken out the assessment program in specific grades. If you look on page 2, we have taken out, in line 20, "Evaluate whether or not students in a school system have acquired skills and knowledge which allow them to meet or exceed academic standards established by the state board". There...there's no gray area there. That's pretty black and white about what is going to be expected to be provided in terms of evaluation in looking at what skills those students have acquired. "(b)" on line 24, "Measure the progress of students", I think that much more clearly identifies the idea I had towards the issue of assessment than going back to what is being put in with the amendment: report the performance of the public schools; determine how well public schools are performing; provide information for the public and policymakers on the performance of public schools. I look at assessment as going back to the qualifications and the skills that the students have learned, and I think that is an issue that we have to always be aware of. What are we trying to accomplish with assessment? We're looking at what students have learned, the skills that are acquired, the quality of education they're receiving. That should be our paramount concern. A second concern I have and, Senator Bohlke, you may have already covered this in previous discussion. If you do, I apologize for that. Could I ask Senator Bohlke a question?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Bohlke, would you respond?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yes.

SENATOR C. PETERSON: On page 2...

SENATOR BOHLKE: Is this a multiple choice, true/false, or a criterion referenced question? (Laugh)

SENATOR C. PETERSON: You can pick it. It's your choice of the testing. On page 2, line 5, or excuse me, Section (sic--subsection) (5), line 17, it says: any school district selected to participate in the AEP Progress shall participate to