

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

January 21, 2000 LB 182

people and thoughtful journalists in our society. Now, on the question of obscenity, for example, you mentioned that as one example. In a publications code, if you don't like the...if they don't like the Supreme Court definition of obscenity, and they don't like the statutory definition of obscenity which applies in Nebraska, and which would apply to the school districts if they did not adopt a publications code,...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...if they don't like any of those definitions, then they can construct their own definition of obscenity in their publications code, and they could be a lot stricter than we would be with a private publication, for example. So again, I want to emphasize the point, and if you have clarifying amendments that make that even clearer, I would be glad to adopt them, that there is no limitation on the power of administrators and school boards to enact a very conservative publication code, if they so choose. Beyond that, to the extent that students may be expressing themselves in a way that are not...that is not appropriate to you or to some other member of the school district, if...if...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...if experience shows...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Bromm, on the first part of the Beutler amendment to the committee amendments to LB 182.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor. I think many of us are trying to decipher this bill and this amendment, probably for the first time. If we weren't on the Education Committee, we haven't taken the time or had a reason to really examine it. So I think that explains why we're spending some time with it and why we're beginning to hear from our schools with questions and things like that. I do think there is a concern out there, as I can interpret it, that one question put to me by several of the schools that I've heard from are why do we need this; and then, secondly, why...what is going to be the impact or the consequences of the act? And I think