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who are going to do this molding, and we must test to see whether or not they have that ability. And, if they have the ability, what do they have to fear from a test? Nothing. In some states they were giving tests to teachers at an eighth grade level, and so many teachers were flunking them that the teachers protested strenuously. So you've got a person teaching the twelfth grade who cannot pass an eighth grade test. These people, remember, are in the realm of the intellectual; we're talking about education, learning, and yet they fear that they don't know enough to pass a test. I don't buy that. So, if this bill is passed, I'm going to do all I can to see that the state takes control of education in this state. And if, in order to give myself leverage, I have to fight off other bills that people want to get enacted to keep an ineffective system operational, I'll fight off those bills. I don't think there could be a nobler, more praise-worthy profession than teaching. I didn't say it's the noblest or the only one that's noble, there are other pursuits, but people who are doing that job properly ought to be well compensated. It should be a position that carries distinction and honor. To say one is a teacher should be almost mystical in its import, because you're bringing that which is not known to those who don't know but need...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...to learn. And not everybody who has knowledge can impart it to those who need to receive it. I want to see a high quality standard set for the schools, for the teachers, and for the pupils. So I see this bill as going to the issue of who controls the schools. You could still have local school boards piddling around and getting in the way and being incompetent, like a lot of them are now, but the ultimate responsibility and job will be done through the state.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Wickersham, on the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Mr. President, members of the body, I rise in opposition to Senator Beutler's amendment. I'm...I'm a little bit concerned about what the implications are. First of all, you have a group of state employees, presumably making recommendations, but then the fight would certainly be on, on