

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

March 15, 2000 LB 1399

intellection than they were when they were in the lower grades before the school system got a hold of them. And I'm not just talking about the public schools, I mean wherever there are children being instructed. I'm putting these things out there so that my colleagues who support this bill can answer the problems that I see in this. When they...if you take a philosophy course, if you take a liberal arts course of study, there is always this harping on knowledge for knowledge's sake. Knowledge is its own reward. You know, if nobody else knows what you know, they cannot take it from you. And we put that in the students. And then the ones teaching that and saying it's a standard for directing your life and the onward and upward improvement of yourself are going to say that I'm not going to go onward and upward unless you pay me. If teachers have the ability...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...the wherewithal to get this additional training, they ought to do it because they think it's what they ought to do in order to be at the top of their profession. But maybe society has taken a turn where those who are entitled to additional compensation will not get it across the board and maybe they are willing to go an extra step to say that I'm going beyond what you require of any teacher, and if that is done maybe I can become a paradigm for the other teachers, and based on that I'm entitled to something. My mind is open, not empty, but it's open and I'm going to listen. I'm not going to support Senator Tyson because, although he's always right from the standpoint of political orientation, he's seldom correct.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Thompson, and this is your third time, Senator.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. Teaching is one of the few professions where the person who is doing the work is required to advance themselves professionally on their own time, at their own cost. They pay for their continuing education. They do their special programs in the summer on their own time. There are very few businesses that would be able to tell an employee that they would be expected to do everything at nights and on the weekends in terms