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information?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Bohlke, would you yield to a question?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Senator Redfield, the reason being because it had been piloted in 50 school districts and schools felt that it was an excellent assessment. In your situation using the Stanford, that's part of their standardized test they would do anyway. So I would assume with this they would have two writing assessments in that if they go ahead with that on their standard test which if they think it's a valuable tool for their teachers they would. But in order to have Ralston compared to how students in District 66 or Omaha Public, Millard, they would need to do this other that most everyone has told me is an excellent assessment piece.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you. My second question really would revolve around the tests that are developed within the district. We both know that schools, as long as they've existed, have always assessed their students. Every teacher in the classroom is looking for information, feedback on how well the students are learning the skills that she's conveying to them. And so what I'm looking for here is what actually will be different for those classroom teachers, what information are they going to glean if we as a state are not clarifying in any way what specifically they have to cover on that test, whether they have to cover fractions, they have to cover decimals? I'm not sure what information we're going to get on a statewide comparison here that's of value to them. I know that right now their assessments give them classroom data that tells them how they've done on a certain lesson plan. But it doesn't always tell them how those students in their classroom are comparing to students across the state as to whether they're in their curriculum covering all of the same types of material. So could you just go through the advantages and what they're going to learn now with this test that they're not gaining currently?

SENATOR BOHLKE: The department asked the Buros Institute who is recognized nationally, they happen to be located in Lincoln, to look at the standards and look at what schools are currently testing with the standardized tests. They said that generally,