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SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay.

SENATOR BOHLKE: ...argument. That's...

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SENATOR BOHLKE: That's why.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...I appreciate that answer, Senator, and I know there's more to say and we will get to that. But, folks, understand that answer. That answer means the State Department of Education blew it legally on the basic fundamental question in this system. All they had to do, the one big important thing they had to do legally was to be sure that their standards were sufficiently clear to allow an...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...assessment of students against the state standard. That's all they had to do. And the Attorney General warned them from the beginning that their standards were too vague for any of these purposes, but they ignored it. And then, in February, this decision comes down and how do they react to it? By further destroying the system, by further destroying the system, by saying, okay, they're too vague so we won't test against state standards anymore, notwithstanding that the Legislature asked us to do so, notwithstanding that a majority of the Legislature has said that was an appropriate mandate, notwithstanding that 93 percent of the people of the state, look at the newspaper article, believe in strong state standards. Notwithstanding all of that, they give us an amendment last week that further destroys the system and makes it impossible, absolutely impossible, to work.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time. Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Chambers, on the Beutler amendment to LB 812.