

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

March 27, 2000 LB 812

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR BOHLKE: And I'll yield the time back.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I hope the tide is swinging in favor of adopting what Senator Beutler is presenting to us. As Senator Redfield pointed out in a very detailed, careful, painstaking manner, nothing is being required that is unreasonable. Sometimes if we would acquaint ourselves with the subject that we're discussing, there would be less fear of it. I can understand that there tends to be an almost automatic reaction against doing something which seems different. This is not really different as Senator Beutler just pointed out. It certainly is not strange. By no stretch of anybody's imagination could it be deemed bizarre. We cannot forever go along not addressing a system that needs to be addressed. Although the next millennium begins January 1 of next year, people say that we're in a new millennium now. So, based on the perception of the public, I will say the same thing. Now that we're entering a new millennium, maybe all things or as many things as possible should be made new. This approach I think is very reasonable. It has been thoroughly debated. I have not heard any practical or philosophical, certainly no educational reason to not adopt this amendment. It is not going to revolutionize education. It is not saying that history must be taught according to the way Ernie Chambers says it ought to be taught. It's not saying that social studies should be taught the way the Catholic Church says social studies should be taught. What it is saying is that in these schools we presume and hope that instruction will take place; that in order to judge of this instruction we need a standard or measuring stick. This is a rule. Most people call it a ruler. It really is a rule. If you took woodworking, you know the difference between a rule and a ruler. But anyway for the...this is a ruler 12 inches long. We assume and presume that because it has 12 numbers on it that the distance between each number is an inch. So we will not take another measuring device or apparatus to establish...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.