

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

March 27, 2000 LB 812

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, sir.

SENATOR SMITH: Senator Beutler, I hear you saying from the last amendment perhaps that we need to redo the standards. What type of cost do you see involved with this effort?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, as best I can determine, the department...and I would ask for Senator Bohlke's information here because she probably has a little better handle on that than I do. My understanding is this, Senator, that what we will want to do is to be sure that all school districts are prepared to deal with assessments, that is, they're all prepared to understand the state standards, to understand their own standards, to understand what it's going to take in the classroom to relate to those standards, and the different methodologies that might be involved to get there, and that there will be money spent, that standards probably are not going to work whether they're state or local or both unless that process is gone through carefully district by district. And so the general cost of doing that is probably going to be somewhat the same one way or the other. That's my general analysis of the subject.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Senator Beutler. My concern is that we're going to have a great cost here. There will be concerns about duplication from prior efforts. And I think that standards are inherently vague oftentimes because we're talking about an objective that is set by a governing body that isn't always easy to specify and pinpoint. What I would like to say more importantly, though, is I think that multiple assessment and, Senator Beutler, is multiple assessment your intent with this amendment?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, with this amendment it makes possible multiple assessments or a single test assessment, either one. It doesn't force us to decide that question. That's why I tried to divide this out into three separate questions that represent three separate parts. If you adopt this amendment, you can go multiple assessments or you can go a single test assessment.

SENATOR SMITH: One or the other?