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understanding of what it is we intend or don't intend to do. This amendment replaces the language that's in the bill right now and it says: Beginning in the school year 2000-2001, the State Department of Education shall implement a student assessment program under which the department shall administer statewide assessments adopted by the State Board of Education to all public school students in the area of reading, writing, science, mathematics, social studies, and history according to an implementation schedule to be determined by the state board. Nothing radical I think in all of that part. The next part says: The department shall maintain the results of the assessments administered by this section and consider the results as accreditation indicators. The assessment shall measure the performance of students against the state model academic content standards and shall be given to the students in the same three selected grade levels each year. The assessment shall include one statewide test customized to align the state model academic content standards, to align with the state model academic content standards. The state board shall adopt special criteria for students with disabilities, students entering the school system for the first time, and students with limited English proficiency. All of that is language out of the current bill. "The assessment and all reporting relating to the assessment shall protect the confidentiality of individual students. All school districts shall participate in the assessment and provide any assistance requested by the department. The department shall prepare an annual report of the results of the assessments to the Education Committee of the Legislature and the Governor. The report shall also be made available upon request to members of the public." And then it goes on to describe in a little more detail the contents of the report. In the bill as it stands right now, this language is in the bill, this is what we have stated to be a part of our objective, not our whole objective, but a part of our objective. Provide for the comparison of Nebraska public schools to their peers, provide for the comparison of Nebraska public schools to their peers. If you don't want to make that comparison, there are two ways of avoiding it. You can give different tests and then argue that you can't compare the results because the tests are different. Or you can use two different standards and then argue that the standards are different and therefore you can't compare. So if part of what we're trying to do is to reassure