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would plead ignorance to a certain extent, Senator, with regard to what all you may be intending here or what all the language...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...does. But to start with, let me ask you this. This writing assessment that you're talking about, first of all it's a mandated statewide assessment, right? So we can get past everybody voted for a mandate and everybody voted for a statewide assessment, notwithstanding some of the rhetoric on the floor today about mandates and statewide assessments. Secondly, would it be...is it correct to say that that writing assessment is totally unrelated to the state standards?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Correct.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, so whatever the state board did with regard to the state writing assessment, it would mean nothing if we...if we pass your amendment in the sense that there really is no relationship between the two, in that sense.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Time. Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Suttle, on the Beutler amendment.

SENATOR SUTTLE: Thank you, Mr. President. I rise in trepidation about this. I don't know whether everyone got the norm referenced and criteria referenced example questions that Senator Bohlke sent out. That gives you a clue as to the different kinds of...at least two different kinds of tests. I heard Senator Beutler answering Senator Raikes' questions and he is saying that it's possible with this one test to lose your accreditation. That's a pretty high stakes test. I think it is...is a huge high stake test and, as we have read in other reports, it does foster cheating on the part of school districts to maintain it. So what good does ranking do? What does that tell us about it? I know that Commissioner Christensen has been adamant in his opposition to one statewide test and, Senator Beutler, for your information, we were told by the department that when you have one test, all you are, even if you ask everything in relation to the standards, you only cover 41 percent of the standards. You cannot, in one test, cover