

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

March 30, 2000 LB 495

don't seem to want to do that in this body. We don't want to spend our money on the prevention end of things. We want to spend it...we're a crisis management group. That's all we do in this body is manage crises when we could be putting money in prevention and saving in the long run. And so I ask you to at least support the Stuhr amendment, even though I do so reluctantly. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Suttle. Senator Stuhr, on your amendment. And this will be your third time, Senator.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. I did appreciate those comments from Senator Hilgert and Senator Redfield, but I also want to point out that we have included a number of people, one member from the Business and Labor Committee to bring that perspective from this Work Force Development Act. We have one representative from business. We have one representative from labor. We also have another taxpayer who could be a partner or a businessperson from the community. We also have a community college representative involved in career preparation and technical training, and one representative from a technical education teacher education program. And that would be someone that is actually from the teacher education program, such as the university or a technical college or a community college. So I believe that there is certainly the opportunity to have a great deal of input from all of these different areas and that's what we've tried to do is to have some kind of balance in looking...what we've been trying to look at are the middle and high school students and the needs of those students in middle and high school. So I believe that by providing this task force an opportunity to really look, as I said earlier, to what the purpose and the role of career preparation and technical education programs are, the prevalence and need for these programs, looking at funding, availability of teachers and again the articulation of these programs. So I believe that this is all just an investment in the future of our state and that we need to come up and look at some good policy on career education and technical education programs. As I said before, I think that there is a real need. We have a number of students that have dropped out of high school, continually do so. We feel it's very important to incorporate the career and technical education needs throughout the curriculum of these