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LB 812

now what we're dealing with in LB 812, and I know that some of you have been receiving letters and e-mails from superintendents, and I don't think they're quite clear that many times we do gut bills and put amendments in and those become the bills. So we are changing it from the one test that previously was stated for LB 812 and now looking at the multiple assessment. One comment, Senator Bohlke said something about, well, everyone would be taking the same writing assessment. Actually, I believe it's true that those will be normed to the different grade levels, like fourth grade would just be writing about a subject. When you got to the eighth grade, it would be more detailed. When you got to the eleventh grade then it might be more of a debate, emphasizing the writing skills. So it would also be according to grade level on how that writing test would be assessed. Also, I believe the importance of having the teachers for this first round really involved in writing these assessments. They don't get real excited when they say, all right, we're going to do the Iowa Basic Test, because they're not that involved in that...in that instrument. But once they start writing the assessments themselves, that's why, if you've...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR STUHR: ...been a teacher, you learn very much a lot from teaching. And so they're going to learn more about the standards by becoming involved in writing the assessments. So, I think that with all the compromises we're looking at, I also...I support in the end looking at those five tests. We haven't dealt a lot about that, but I think it would give schools more choice. I wasn't...I didn't realize the Iowa Basic, they actually have like five different versions of it. We talk about one test, it's the same, more or less, the same material but written in different ways. So, again, I think it will give the individual schools an opportunity to look at their student progress and also then, since we've narrowed it down, that in a number of years we'll be looking at the five tests,...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Time.

SENATOR STUHR: ...there will also be some rating in between schools. Thank you.