

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

April 3, 2000

LB 812

SENATOR BOHLKE: ...is that it will be five instead of multiple.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature. Senator Bohlke and Senator Stuhr, Senator Beutler and those who've worked on this, I commend you for all the hard work. This is a very tough subject, and I'm getting a lot of e-mail and a lot of questions from districts. It seems...I think the main concern in the school districts I'm hearing from is they have geared up for something and to some extent, and they're concerned that this something is going to be a moving target and they're going to waste money that they have spent trying to prepare for standards and testing and that they're going to have to start over. They're really afraid of a single test, that's for sure. I think the four tests or the five tests I don't have any particular feeling on whether one is better than the other as far as that number is concerned. It doesn't concern me, but I guess I think that should be helpful to some of the concerns that I've been hearing. A couple of questions, and maybe this should be obvious to me, but Senator Bohlke, would you yield to a question, please.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yes.

SENATOR BROMM: Senator Bohlke, I'm reading the time lines here and the State Board must adopt standards by no later than July, measurable academic content standards no later than July 1 of 2001. The districts must adopt standards no later than July 1 of 2003. Is that right? So there will be two years in-between the time that the schools know what the State Board has done before they have to have some standards in place?

SENATOR BOHLKE: That's correct. As I said, in 2001 they will really only have to have the reading because it goes on in the bill later saying that the standards have to be in place at the time of assessment.

SENATOR BROMM: So the reading and writing are in place