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LB 812

will be do is rating schools, high performing, good, or low performing, not exactly ranking them, not ranking them but just rating them. But primarily we want schools to look at their progress from year to year and try to avoid that comparing from school to school. I think Nebraska is in a really unique position in the fact that we have an outstanding education system. We, the schools, the students rank very well, usually in the top ten throughout the nation.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR STUHR: So it's not like some states that are really struggling at 49th or 45th as far as student performance. So what we're doing is just trying to make our system better. I'm hoping that we can support this amendment and then move on because what we're again wanting to emphasize is student looking at student performance, taking snapshots of those individual students, and I think that's the important thing that we need to focus on and multiple assessments will do that. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Tyson.

SENATOR TYSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I keep hearing that we should not compare schools to schools and student to student. We should instead...we shouldn't even test. We should assess and report, whatever that means. I think I know what it means. I think assessment we're going to have the teachers help with the assessment. That means it's going to be a subjective judgment made of students either individually or probably en masse. Testing is objective. Subjective, I feel Johnny has a grasp for mathematics. Objective, he can solve quadrilateral equations readily. There's a difference. But if we don't want to compare school to school and pupil to pupil, let's not do it. It isn't necessary that we do it because the minute they put one timid little toe outside that school, they're going to be tested every day the rest of their life. A child graduating in Madison County if he goes to work for the right company there, which would be the steel mill, will be tested against someone graduating in Kurashiki, Japan, the home of Kawasaki Steel. That's what life is. It's being tested and compared and rewarded and punished. I cannot vote for LB 812. I don't dislike our children that much. I think we should test