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LB 812

children and let them know where they stand and let them know where they have to do better, and I think the tests should be frequent and difficult. In doing that we also solve another prime objective--we test the teacher. I don't think the children of this state are stupid. I think they're intelligent. I think they can be taught. But if we're going to teach them, we have to have teachers who can teach them. By testing, not assessing, by testing we will judge the student and we will judge the teacher. And when we make up our mind to do that, we're on our way to a better education for the people who are going to be running this state in a very, very short time, a matter of years. Education is important. It's too important to make it easy. I don't think these tests or these assessments, these subjective judgments should be easy. I think they should be hard. Now if I'm the only one to vote against LB 812, I don't mind. Let's try and realize that what we're talking about here is a very, very serious matter. It goes to the substance and the quality of education in this state. I don't care about any other state. They are not my neighbors. They're somebody else's neighbors. My neighbors live here. I want our children to do well, and they're not going to do it this way. Thank you. I'll give the rest of my time back to the Chair.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Beutler. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I waive for the moment.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I'd like to have a little dialogue with Senator Bohlke if she wouldn't mind.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Bohlke, would you respond?

SENATOR BOHLKE: Senator Vrtiska, I always look forward to a dialogue with you. I know that we'll get to that on any bill.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you. Looking at the bullets that you passed out, I was just curious because if you look at the bottom of the page it says, assessment reporting system for each subject except writing shall be based on a locally developed