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FLOOR DEBATE

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academic program in various career endeavors. Rather, what we're saying at this point is that collaboration between school districts, or between school districts and an ESU, or between school districts and a community college, is the way that these programs should be offered. So this program focuses specifically on those collaborative efforts, and offers, on a competitive basis, some grants to help those partners in that cooperative agreement bring about some of these career programs. Again, I think this is a very conservative but appropriate effort in that direction. I think the career-type programs are often very important to several students, or many students that are in our K-12 system. I will also mention that the bill did come out of committee on an 8 to 0 vote. And actually, because her amendment to the committee amendments replaces the committee amendment, I would yield time to Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Raikes. Mr. Clerk, please.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, I do have amendments to the committee amendments. The first is AM1839, by Senator Stuhr. But I have a note that she wishes to withdraw and offer AM2725. (Legislative Journal page 1046.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: So ordered. Senator Stuhr, to open.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. What we have done with this amendment, it is very similar to the original committee amendment, but we did some language smoothing, as Senator Chambers often does in bills. We were...had the opportunity to look at the bill, just change some wording. Also, we did remove Section 6, which was the intent, the financial intent. And that is removed because we feel that that was no longer necessary, since we do have an A bill with the bill. I thank Senator Raikes for his comments in regard to LB 690, because it is exactly what we have been talking about. You have several handouts on your desk, one from the Commissioner of Education. And if you would flip over the green sheet that is before you, you will see a long list of letters of support that we have received from various people throughout the state in regards to this bill. We not only have teachers,