

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 1405

SENATOR SCHMITT: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members. My mike is falling apart back here. I wasn't going to speak on this but I decided maybe I should, and when I get done talking, you're probably going to wonder where I'm at on this issue, but I'm going to make that very clear right now. I want to be up front with everybody. I am not going to support the bracket motion. I'm going to support the bill, and maybe I shouldn't. I had polio when I was 18. It was very scary. I got deathly sick, parents called the ambulance. I walked out to the ambulance, less than an hour later I was admitted to the hospital, I couldn't walk anymore. I overcame that. Doctors okayed me to go into the military. I went into the military. I got out of the hospital in September and went into the military in November. Went through basic training, the doctors felt this was good therapy for it. I came out I guess with no negative results from it. My mother died with Parkinson's disease, so I should probably be very supportive of what's going on but I'm not. I'm very unhappy with the university because of what they've done with the doctor or professor, whatever you want to call him. I don't believe this issue should be before the Legislature. I abstained from voting when it came out of committee. I feel it's a regents issue, but now that it's before the Legislature, I feel we need to deal with it. Constitutionally, I don't know whether it's constitutional or not. I've been here for eight years and I've always been under the impression that until the court decides we really don't know whether it's constitutional or not. So maybe we need to let them decide on this issue. Another thing that I've been doing here for eight years, I have been dealing with alternative medicine. Whether this was right or whether it was wrong. I don't know, but the alternative medicine that I was dealing with, in my opinion, was not harmful to anybody. The medical people didn't like it because it was probably going to cut into their big bucks. I couldn't get it voted out...out of committee. I am not condemning the committee. They've done what they felt was right. It was the medical people that didn't want it, but we had hundreds of people and you received hundreds of letters from constituents of mine, constituents of yours, that supported the alternative medicine, but the medical people won't support it. I guess I sat back here and listened to all this discussion this morning, and it was a good discussion but I wanted to be very clear and up front with everybody where I was on this. I won't support