

land there was quite a bit of different reports about education, about excellence in education. And I think that is what...one of the results of the study in Nebraska came out was that we should have more time in class. And I think also research shows this that more time on task students learn more and so I think that is what this amendment, as added last year, was attempting to do, more time on task, extending the school year because many times I think in the United States we are behind what other countries do as far as time on task. And so if we are going to have...and I think we have an excellent school system but to continue to make our school systems better, we have to have more time on tasks, so more time in the classroom. So I vigorously oppose Senator Withem's amendment.

SENATOR MARSH: Thank you, Senator Hartnett. Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Mr. President and members, a question of Senator Withem, please.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Senator Lamb.

SENATOR LAMB: Is this amendment supported by NSEA?

SENATOR WITHEM: It is my understanding this amendment is supported by NSEA.

SENATOR LAMB: Is this amendment supported by the State School Boards Association?

SENATOR WITHEM: I do not know if it is supported by the State School Boards Association.

SENATOR LAMB: You don't know?

SENATOR WITHEM: Senator Scofield tells me it is not. I have had no conversation with them.

SENATOR LAMB: Thank you.

SENATOR MARSH: Senator Haberman. Senator Withem, you may close.

SENATOR WITHEM: Madam President and members, just to reiterate what the intent of the amendment is. It is not to destroy the fabric of LB 994. It is not to destroy the