

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, perhaps what you see in me is what education can produce. When you become convinced that a cause is right and just, you fight it, for it, and that is what I intend to do, and I can see now that this one is doomed just like the others are, but there still is something that has to be done and I am going to do it. There is a teaching function that the Legislature fulfills or can, whether it does or not, and there are people who might be saying in their mind that when this bill gets to Select File, they are going to take a different position on these issues than they are taking today, but it is just interesting how so many other things that are not that important can cause us to put off till another date that which we ought to be doing today. This is exactly the bent of mind in this position which makes it difficult to stand when the heat is on and all of the voices are on the other side of an issue that we believe in. We can rationalize and temporize and say I ought to fold and cave in because it is going to go that way anyway so why don't I go ahead and join them. We are not doing that to facilitate a process. We are doing it because we are not strong enough to act on our convictions. We are glad if there is somebody else who is willing to say the things that we know need to be said, the things we ought to be saying, but because of fear will not say. Why worry about what the people in this body feel? If you are the kind of person who will compromise and trade votes, they have got to come to you again. They upset you, they don't care, so why should it make you any difference if they are upset? They dare not show that being upset with the lobbyists. They will show the greatest of respect for them. But they show no respect in other situations because they don't need to. They can say I won't vote this way or I won't vote that way, so to avoid offending, people are silent when they ought to speak. They vote against what they tell me their conscience tells them they ought to do but we each have to make a determination of what is important to us. Education of the proper kind can strengthen a person's will and resolve. It can teach them what a human being is supposed to be, and whether you tie your destiny to the existence of a supreme being or an ultimate destiny for human beings, you can still come to an understanding that you are here for something other than to