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LB 638

clause. I speak with some vehemence on this point of order because the committee labored long and hard to draft committee amendments that did not make specific reference to the school for the visually impaired and the school for the hearing impaired. There are a lot of those people who came to the hearing very concerned about the...what this bill was going to do to their schools and it would have done some major violence to those schools had it passed in its original form. But the committee amendments removed all reference to those. There is no reference to those schools so adding a power to those who operate the Nebraska School for the Deaf and Nebraska School for the Visually Handicapped is, in fact, adding something to the bill that...to the amendments that are not mentioned at all in the amendments. And so I would urge the Chair to rule that this amendment is not germane.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Withem. Would you like to respond, Senator Hall?

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President. Clearly, the entire bill deals with the whole issue of the state schools. It's littered throughout the bill as well as the committee amendments. In the whole issue of the state plan, you cannot talk about the state plan without talking about the schools. They are not mentioned specifically. Clearly, I would agree with that, as Senator Withem pointed out, but the issue of resources is mentioned throughout. This amendment deals only with resources and it deals with a part of that plan. It clearly is germane. If Senator Withem would go on record saying that these schools would not be part of that state plan, then I would agree that it is not germane to the committee amendments. Clearly, they are the...probably the driving force behind the plan. They have been the driving force behind every other proposal that has looked at them in the past. You can't separate the two. It is germane.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hall. I'm going to rule that this amendment is not germane. Okay, we will...

SENATOR HALL: (Microphone not activated) ...not. I know it was probably a good ruling but...

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hall. We will now then proceed with debate on the committee amendments. Okay, I will now recognize Senator Lynch, followed by Senator Robinson, Hall