

March 30, 1984

LB 1128

Spooner of Ralston. The first are the aunt and uncle and Mr. and Mrs. Spooner are friends of the Senator. We are glad to have you here to watch the Senator, to keep him out of trouble. Welcome to the Legislature this morning. Senator Warner, are you ready to proceed?

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. Clerk, is the one that deals with the military?

CLERK: Yes, sir, tuition assistance, yes.

SENATOR WARNER: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this is the override dealing with the reimbursement of postsecondary institutions, educational institutions which currently are reimbursed as required by law for those members of the National Guard attending the institutions. Based upon the projections received from the estimates for what it means to the various institutions there is approximately \$117,000 of this that would be reimbursed for the state colleges. About \$110,000 of it would be reimbursed to the community colleges and the University, all the systems, is about \$420,000. If you fail to override this by statute the institutions are still required to submit to the Department of Military reimbursement. The law says they shall be reimbursed. In the event that you want to discontinue the program...well if you want to discontinue the problem then you should repeal the statute that requires this to be funded but as long as that is how it is, then certainly that is every legal obligation, every moral obligation on the body to provide the funds for the program that we have enacted and said will be done. If we fail to do it why of course it obviously means all those institutions absorb the cost of the program and that obviously they cannot do. I should tell you prior to the change in the law we used to do that. We used to reimburse all the institutions and it was a headache in terms of the book work and sorting it all out trying to keep track of what student was at what institution, get it written into the budget right. This is a much more straightforward, upright, appropriate way to do it as it is now where the funds are given to the military and then they reimburse the school by law. I hope you would override the

11271