

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Good idea, question.

PRESIDENT: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 5 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Debate has ceased on the Scofield amendment to the committee amendments. Senator Scofield, did you wish to close?

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you. My purpose in introducing this is simply to keep the concept alive and make it very clear that I don't have any intention, at least at this point, of committing any state funds. I would have a further concern should this bill decide to advance or should you decide to advance this bill, I guess I should say, that there is another section of this bill we should also make clear and debate and that would be do we really want to establish another board and pay their expenses as well. The real intent here behind my amendment is to give us a chance to see what is out there in terms of private support and, frankly, Tim Hall makes some very good points about what the possibilities are of fund raising. But I am willing to give Senator McFarland a chance to see if he can raise the money or what kind of indication of interest there is out there, but should this bill show up again on Select File, I might very likely be there again amending it further to make sure that at least for now we don't have to make any General Fund commitment. I like the point Senator Vard Johnson makes about let's line up our priorities: at the end of this session, look at how much money we have to spend, and decide what truly are those priorities. So I think this amendment gives you an opportunity to limit some commitment. It does not limit things perhaps even to the extent that I would like. Senator Withem would like...I will give Senator Withem a couple minutes of my time, if I could.

PRESIDENT: Senator Withem, please. You have 3 1/2 minutes.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Let me give that time to Senator McFarland.

PRESIDENT: Senator McFarland, you have 3 1/2 minutes.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Scofield, thank you for the time. I certainly appreciate your sentiments of trying to preserve the concept and the idea of a gifted