

the Pell Grants very clearly defines income needs of a family. Coupled with the fact that we note that public tuition will be increasing which probably will adverse some students who may need additional help, I think the retention of the distribution, as it is proposed in the legislation, is the one that ought to stay in place. I would oppose the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Higgins, please, then Senator Scofield.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President, and thank you, Senator Warner, for your explanation. And I agree with Senator Warner. I would not be for any amendment that says public colleges get less than the independents, even though public colleges already have tax supported dollars. We are talking about the special \$750,000 appropriation for students who wish to go to a state college or an independent college. And, Senator Warner, if what you say is true, the independents would get 70 percent or 80 percent, let's put an amendment on this that says under no circumstances would either get more than 50 percent, or I would even say don't even give the independents more than 45 percent. That wouldn't be fair to anybody to say that we get more for the independents than the publics. And I think that those who would support this amendment that says 78 percent to the public students and 22 percent to the independents, that is certainly not fair. The people that send their children to these schools, I often wonder about this need for the tuition. I wonder how many students, because of the lack of the student aid, this scholarship program, and this is not far-fetched, I wonder how many Jonas Salk's there might have been in Nebraska if we had started earlier to give them some help. That's the way I feel about this. I used to talk about maybe there would have been a cure for cancer sooner if women had been allowed to go to medical colleges. Maybe we have a student out there that can't afford the cost of living to go far away from his or her home town, but with this small scholarship, that student, whether they go to a state college or an independent college, the scholarship could be the driving mark to get him there or her there and then decide this is worth working for, I'm going to do everything in my power to stay in college. We could very well be funding a young man or a young woman who will ultimately find a cure for some of our worst diseases, or maybe someone who might come up with an idea on how to truly attain peace, or how to feed the world. It isn't fair now, 82 percent to public colleges who do not rely entirely on