

We'll now vote on the motion to cease debate. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted on the motion to cease debate? Have you all voted on the motion to cease debate? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 4 nays to cease debate.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Debate has ceased. I'll recognize Senator Schimek for closing.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Madam Chair, members of the body, I had my red light on because I really think that we needed more debate on this particular amendment. Make no mistake about it, this is a change in public policy and if there is any bludgeoning going on, it is because of that change in policy, not because of my amendment. My amendment takes us back to where we've been, the way we've been doing it and I'm not standing up here and arguing. You didn't hear me say, I don't think, that no private entity could or should get public funds. I didn't stand up here and argue that. They do. I know that. I guess my question is, why do we change what we're doing when we have a good process? Why do we just automatically give an institution, which doesn't happen to be a state institution, why do we just automatically give them the money? If the program is good, if the program is good, why are they so afraid of the competitive grant process? And I don't want to stand up here and knock Creighton. I think they have good facilities. I think they do good, valuable service. I don't want to knock them. That's not my point. And my point is certainly not to take away money from important research like breast cancer research. For those of you who don't know, I fought long and hard for a mammography bill in this body for three years before we finally got something going. I believe very firmly that we need to fund cancer research in this state and with an added two-cent tax we're going to be tripling the amount of money basically going into cancer research in this state. So we're not be negligent. I think it's a very important policy change. I think we'll regret it down the line and the other thing that never came out in the debate, since I'm the only one willing to stand up and talk on this issue on this side of it, the thing that never came up in debate is okay, so this money goes into the cancer research. Then what about the money that Creighton is already spending on cancer research? Can they use that for something else? Can they use that for tuition remission? Can they use that for building a new building? I mean I don't think