

May 9, 1979

LB 363

their operations. The fourth thing we do and it is best to get back to the resolution as well, is to study how we can maintain the local mechanism of control of community colleges. At one time this state had, when they passed 344 and Senator Kremer can speak to this since he is pretty much the author, we established a council that was set up by the Legislature for the purpose of gathering information, coordinating programs and trying to report to the Legislature what was being done in the community colleges as opposed to what wasn't being done. What we are proposing to you today and the next amendment in my bill, or in my amendments, would be to establish the council one more time. Presently the community colleges are carrying on a system which is voluntary in nature. Now I am not going to say it hasn't worked but it is obvious it has not been very effective. So we are putting in a council once again with an executive secretary and some office help and an administrative assistant. The purpose of that is to look at federal laws, see how they might be applicable to community colleges in terms of federal dollars, how they would be allocated. Secondly, it would look at programs across the state, establish the waiting system under the state aid formula. In other words those programs would be rated at 1.5 and 1.75. Then the Legislature would then allocate money or DAS would allocate money according to that waiting to each of the community colleges. So if we are going to maintain the local control of government of the community colleges, then it is my sincere belief that we must have a council that will indeed sit as an oversight council of the community colleges and will report findings and data to the Legislature and to others who have an interest; where are we duplicating, what kinds of programs are unnecessary and do the community colleges indeed carry out the roles and missions that we have established for them, is you know by LB 756 of about one session ago or the one before that. So that is the reason I am offering these amendments. I am offering them to carry out the thrust of LR 278 and LR 279 and I believe they do that and I can read you the recommendations of that study conducted by the members that I mentioned earlier and they recommend that we do this in legislation and that is what I am attempting to do and that is the purpose of the amendments I am offering to the committee amendments prior to their adoption. Thank you.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature,