

years ago this Legislature placed before the people a constitutional amendment dealing with the fact that we were to provide certain aid to post-secondary schools which are private. Several years later after the Supreme Court decision determined that this was legal the Legislature then placed \$180,000 for actual wards for the student loans. Until that court decision came about they withheld a \$180,000 because of the pending court decision, the number of the bill was LB 743, many of you will remember it. So what I am attempting to do here is to place in the budget bill \$180,000 for use by needy students at a non-public sector of the post-secondary institution. I want you to know that that does not increase the Governor's budget and it is the same amount that was formerly budgeted by this body for the purpose of being expended, but never was, until the court decision had been issued. I think if we are going to treat all students fairly in this state, like we do at UN and we do at the state colleges and the community colleges we have in the committee's proposed budget right now that if we are going to be fair to all students that it is imperative that we replace in this budget the \$180,000 which we once had pending a courts decision. That is what this amendment does. It requests \$180,000 be added to the appropriations budget and this was removed from funding from the Governor's budget, who originally gave it to us. So I ask for the adoption of \$180,000 that would be provided to the students attending the private sector just as we provide students attending the public sector in post-secondary education.

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Warner and then Senator Cullan.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature I rise to oppose the amendment for the \$180,000. The basis on which that was not implemented was simply that we didn't believe, at least a majority of us didn't feel that this was the year to start another new program, irregardless of its merits. It is true that the statute is on the books but it is not implemented, has not been implemented and it doesn't seem to me that this is the year then to start implementing with the kind of problems we are having and frankly I suggested the other day we probably will be making more cuts before we leave home...leave for home, and I think that it is ill advised to do it at this time to add the \$180,000 to start up a program which not has been implemented and it could be funded at a time when the revenue picture is a little bit better than it is today. I would urge that you do not add this \$180,000. By the way I should also