

the last six weeks I have made about fourteen speeches throughout my district and the people don't feel that this was quite fair that they should be snookered this way, so I believe the colleges can get along just fine just like everybody else and I ask this body to oppose Senator Nichol's amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Cope.

SENATOR COPE: Mr. President, members, I must oppose Senator Nichol's amendment. I have the nice distinction ordinarily of having a community college and a state college in my district. I believe in the concept of both and do my best to support both of them on an equal basis. Now the community colleges call it state aid. The state colleges, universities call it general funds. To me it is the same, it is the taxpayer's dollar whether we call it one name or the other, and believe me, state colleges, I know, and I know the university, they have the same problems with this three percent cut as the tech colleges, the community colleges have. It is not good and they really have problems and I could cite a lot of those for the state colleges that I am particularly interested in. So, and incidentally, someone said it isn't too large a figure, we can get along with it. Let's look at it. The general funds for state colleges, the total of the four state colleges amounts to \$22 million. The so-called or not so-called, it is state aid but it is still general fund taxpayer dollar is \$19 million so there isn't that much difference. Consider that. So I just think if we are going to have a three percent cut, the pain is equal in all the institutions of higher learning. Let's give each one his fair share of pain.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: Mr. President and members, I don't want to speak very long. I have been up too much this morning but there is a little bit of difference, and I don't know whether I liked the terminology Senator Nichol used for the technical colleges or not but maybe he is right, they are a different breed. And I just want to bring out one thing, you know, we have a seven percent lid on the subdivisions of government. The technical community colleges are not exempt from that, and whenever we cut funding from the state level to our community colleges, you tack it onto the local entity that pays the rest of it because they still are going to be able to spend the seven percent. Maybe not in this particular year, I am not sure how this bill if it passes or this amendment would affect their budget for this year, but they certainly next year no matter how we cut the pie will be able to spend seven percent. Whenever the state does not increase