

school, my mother went back to school by correspondence and got her licensed practical nurse's license and she did it at sacrifice, I'm sure, because of the time that was entailed and because of the monetary expenditure for getting that license. I am wondering right now as I'm listening to this debate if perhaps such an incentive would have been available to her, if she would have been encouraged to go on and get her registered nurse's degree. I think that what we need to remember here is not everybody pays \$50,000 to get their nursing degree. Many of these women, and men I should mention, Senator Nelson, because we haven't mentioned men today and I think often that's kind of stereotypical thinking that everybody who goes into nursing is a woman, but I think that maybe we would encourage more to go on and to get those RN degrees if they had that reward or incentive. It isn't a perfect bill, Senator Withem, but I think it does...it's the only thing that we have on the floor in front of us right now to start talking about addressing this problem and I would hate to see it indefinitely postponed. Perhaps there are some amendments that could be made that more address the question of need and I think that's a legitimate question, but I think it's too early to postpone this bill and I would encourage us to move this forward to Select File. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Further discussion, Senator Moore, followed by Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. Speaker and members, if I have any time remaining I could give the balance of my time to Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Nelson, I hesitate to support this kill motion. I always agree, just like last week when we sparred, I agreed with your intent and today I agree with your intent but unfortunately I'm going to have to support Senator Withem's kill motion, probably for different reasons than Senator Withem does. The fact of the matter is that Nebraska, the State of Nebraska, ranks, if not dead last, almost last in total need-based tuition assistance for all students in Nebraska, all of them, and I have introduced a number of bills in the past and have tried to work on that and continue to try and work on that to get some more tuition assistance for any Nebraska resident that wants to attend a college in Nebraska, public or private, if nothing else, just getting some additional money for the public that I'd like to do, but last year we made a significant step forward when we appropriated \$750,000 in the SSIG overmatch which really about took us from a zero to a little bit and we still ranked about forty-eighth to forty-ninth