

and that is to all students. Now the bill you have is a very laudable goal, spends...fiscal note was a million dollars, going to be less now with your amendment, I understand that. Maybe \$750,000, but...650 whichever it may be, whatever that number is, if it's a half a million or whatever it is, that's money that I would prefer to dump in the overall SSIG overmatch and show all students, regardless of whether or not they are nursing students, all students in Nebraska who I believe really...the state really needs to move ahead on doing something for the students in Nebraska. I guess...I understand why nurses need it, but I guess you mentioned to me you spent \$6 million to get nurses enough...to get, I mean, you need to spend a good deal of money to get nurses enough money in the SSIG overmatch, I agree with that, but I think we'd be better off spending our money so all Nebraska students, not just nurses, get some grants, and SSIG is grant, and I'll give you a little bit of time, 30 seconds, and the balance of my time I want to go to Bernard-Stevens.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Nelson, please.

SENATOR NELSON: I hope that doesn't come off of my 30 seconds, maybe I can get it. May I address that? Student incentives, correct, I agree it was 750,000, a million next year, a million, two-fifty. That is for all students, for merchandising, accounting, journalism and so on and so forth. That is nothing but coffee cup money, less than that. I know the Governor made that remark to Pat Perry of Clarkson. Let me tell you why SSIG. SSIGs are awarded based on demonstrated greatest financial need, fine, but the award is funded 50 percent...

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time has expired.

SENATOR NELSON: ...by Nebraska state government and 50 percent by participating institutions. Some educational institutions cannot or elect not to participate because they don't have the 50 percent matching requirement. The method of distribution is determined by the educational institution. Other financial aid programs, work study, supplemental education are beginning to mandate a higher percentage of match education. This limits the available, the SSIG. That working woman does not qualify for SSIG loans, I know that. It just doesn't...it's not there and I know it sounds good, but that wouldn't even be postage stamp money to the nursing program.