

1,500, the unmet need in one case is \$3,500 and the other 1,500. So then the more wealthy student that may attend Creighton would be getting the money, and the really poor student that would be attending Central Community College may not. But if you go to unmet need, that wouldn't work. SSIG, the Governor says we are increasing that fund. That is all right. I would tell you that most of the time they do not qualify for SSIG. One of the reasons is is the institutions have to supplement that by 50 percent, and it is such an expensive course to produce, they won't do it. And the second place is is a good share of these outstate particularly are working women, mothers. I had the opportunity to speak to, let's see, four graduation classes this last spring, commencement addresses, and these were, a good share of them, nurses or nursing students, and they are more middle-age students. They are not the 19 or 20 or 21-year-old students that are necessarily taking nursing. So with my amendment, I tried to address the need. I assessed, I talked to Rosalee Yeaworth, at the Medical Center, Pat Perry, Central Community College, trying to arrive at some way to determine the best and most equitable means of describing need, so that the wealthy would not get it and that the needed would. We finally came upon the best solution which is in Nebraska statute, 85-990. My amendment is identical to that except in one place and that is that I took out the oversight from the Nebraska Coordinating Commission and it will be the State Department of Education. So other than that, the need is identical as found in your Journal, and as I passed out to you, that is in that statute. One other concern, and, of course, it is difficult to arrive at the fiscal note on this bill, and if the one that the Department of Education first came out with, if it was that high, we certainly wouldn't need the bill because we would have probably enough nurses, but the other portion of the bill puts a cap on the bill of \$500,000, and, in essence, that is my amendment. It addresses the need, and it puts a cap of \$500,000 a year, and if most of you remember from the bill in the first place, it does sunset or has to be reassessed in a three-year period of time. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on the amendment offered by Senator Nelson. Senator Schellpeper, with Senator Withem on deck.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Could I ask Senator Nelson a question please?