

SPEAKER BARRETT: Well, his light is already on so he has...

SENATOR KORSHOJ: He's already spoken twice.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Go ahead, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. I'll take Senator Korshoj's time. Senator Schmit, this information was just given to me. On the basketball tournament alone last year, just the tournament, the NCAA got \$80 million.

SENATOR SCHMIT: How much?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Eighty-million dollars. That's just from the basketball tournament and that's not talking about the college world series which has a network contract and the money that they get from being on cable and other sources of income. The football programs all over this country bring in millions...many more than eighty millions of dollars. The NCAA has plenty of money to respond in damages. Senator Schmit, if the NCAA was a fair organization, you wouldn't find Coach Osborne, Devaney and others complaining year after year about the unreasonableness of the rules. Even the Executive Director held up the rule book, it's thicker than the Bible and more complex than the Internal Revenue Code. They have a man named Al Papik at that university who spends 85 percent of his time just trying to interpret rules so that there won't be an inadvertent violation. This bill is necessary and it would be good if a bill were enacted like this in every state in the country. Then when the NCAA saw Legislatures taking an interest...and Congress is looking at things that the NCAA has done, then they will begin to rationally review their system of rules and make them comport with what is fair. Every rule that the NCAA has now that impacts on an athlete is against the interests of the athlete and in favor of the university. The NCAA is the one that requires athletes to forego certain federal aid in order to participate in the athletic programs. So if we cared so much about these players, if we cared so much about education, we wouldn't be speaking so strongly in favor of an association that says, in order for you to participate, you have to forego state...federal aid of an educational nature. That happens at the University of Nebraska. It happens at universities throughout this country because that's a rule imposed by the NCAA. If an athlete transfers to a school, he can lose a year