

discovered through an Attorney General's opinion that the manner in which the SSIG money has been appropriated is incorrect, probably both incorrect by our state statutes, obviously, by our state statutes. That is what we were talking about yesterday on 651. Probably also incorrect by federal rules and regulations in that we have to make an accounting for the cost of the institution when we determine student financial needs. What 468, the committee amendments to 468 seemed to be admitting is, yeah, that is probably true. With SSIG, we probably have to make an accounting for the cost of the institution when we figure financial needs. So what 468 does is it creates a new state scholarship need sort of program. It appropriates money to that program to carry on our manner of distribution that we did previously, probably improperly. If you are going to take the 468 approach, you are going to say that the way in which we appropriated the money in the past is the way you want to continue it, but there is a problem in doing that, and the amendments to 812, Section 11 of 812, admits that there is a problem in doing that because if you don't, because of federal regulation known as the maintenance of effort approach, which I don't understand as well as I should, but there is a maintenance of effort regulation that in order for you to continue to receive the federal dollars that we are matching that go into this SSIG fund, we have to continue a certain level of support of that program. We made a mistake last year, if you don't want to...I don't think it was a mistake, but this bill seems to be saying we made a mistake last year. We appropriated 750,000 additional dollars into the SSIG program as an overmatch, and with that 750,000 there, we can't just go back to our previous level of appropriation, which I think was something like \$128,000 and still get the match. So what we are doing with the amendment, Section 11 amendment to LB 812, is we are redefining what we did last year. We are saying we didn't really mean for that to be SSIG money. Federal government, believe us, we didn't mean to do that. We are redefining what that was, even though we appropriated the money last year to SSIG, we want to ex post facto change that designation to this new program, and I repeat, this new program doesn't exist. If, and it is probably, if the body wants to make the policy decision that the 468 approach is the correct one, that we should distribute money to students financial need, and not include within that formula the cost of the institution that they attend, and you want to continue that status quo way of doing it, you probably need to do it. I am not so sure you can do that, though. I am not so sure you can appropriate money that has already been spent by