

program. It's already been spent. It's already been in the students' hands, having been appropriated under the SSIG program. This amendment changes the definition of where that money was appropriated and appropriates it to a new fund, a new program, and would point out that that new program doesn't exist. So what we're doing here is, for those of you heard it talked about reinventing government yesterday, we're kind of reinventing government here. We're appropriating money that's already been spent to a program that doesn't exist and I'm suggesting to the body that maybe we don't want to do that.

PRESIDENT: There are...Senator Warner, please. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Excuse me, Mr. President, I thought maybe I ought to recite as I understand the amendment that we're considering, as I understand the amendment which would strike Section 11 is to, would be to indicate that any student financial aid that is totally funded from state money ought to be dictated by what the federal regulations are on that program rather than a separate and distinct state program which we could, if the body wished to do so, could be distributed in the same fashion or it could be distributed in some other fashion, but in either event we would not be dictated to by federal decisions, federal level regulations as to what our choices are and it seems to me that that makes a great deal more sense. I seriously doubt that there is a problem with making this adjustment in the current appropriation and, again, as I've indicated it's merely to retain a lower maintenance of effort which is to the advantage of the state. The second thing I might say, you know, I appreciate that there are opposing viewpoints on how all of this is to be done and in many respects the inclusion of this section aside from the logic of the maintenance of effort issue. The other, probably more appropriate consideration would be the fact that by doing this then the majority of the Legislature in whatever decision eventually is made, we will not be restricted in that decision by some previous budget action which may or very likely may not have been made had the distribution known to be at that time as it will be in the future without a change. So, the provisions is solely one of leaving the Legislature to be able to adapt whatever state scholarship program that it wants to do, and not be encumbered in that decision by any federal restrictions on how money may have been used or not used in the past.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Withem, your light is the last