

General's Opinion and see how that view either agrees with or disagrees with my interpretation.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Warner, please, followed by Senator Nelson.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I think Senator Withem has substantially stated the issue as I would understand it as well, and I would have no disagreement with his explanation. We do view it...I view it as an accounting program, not as substantive law. We know you cannot do substantive law in the Appropriations Committee and I would imagine the Coordinating Commission understands that too and would make no change in the distribution by virtue of passage of 812 because it would not permit them to do that either. So I think Senator Withem has explained it well and I see no problem with that explanation. I should, I think, as Senator Withem indicated, I think the Attorney General's Office made some assumptions which went beyond with any legislative history or discussion and have written to him for some clarification on that, but I see no substantive disagreement with Senator Withem's explanation.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Nelson, please.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I, too, have no problem with Senator Withem's interpretation or explanation, or I guess maybe I should say, more explanation. I'm not so sure about the interpretation on the bill. I want the body, and I think so many members in this body don't realize, and I certainly didn't understand and I know a lot more since I was forced into it on the nursing program, but the basis that these loans are figured and the SSIG program is a bigger issue and a bigger concern than most of us maybe or maybe...do not realize. Back to my explanation some time ago, if a student attends a college \$8,000, gets about \$4,000 worth of scholarships, their need is then \$4,000 or their unmet need. Let's take the same student attending a school that is \$4,000, 50 percent scholarships. Their unmet need is \$2,000. Where do you think that scholarship money is going to go? And it's not necessarily going to go to the students that are probably in need because those students will be going to the public institutions, the cheaper schools, and not necessarily to the more expensive schools that maybe they can afford to go or they cannot go, but this is a very tricky question and we have it coming up again I