

fact that the rules and regs, the operations money and the staffing for the program will be set in place. The argument that Senator Hannibal uses with regard to appropriating the money prior to having the rules and regs in place is one that I've used a couple different times on the floor as well, but it had to do with planning and then construction of various facilities. We appropriated the planning money and also the, prior to having any plans or idea about what was going to take place, we appropriated the monies to build a facility and the argument there was so that we knew what the outside cost was going to be. Well, that's fine. I would argue that that's all we're doing here in the amendment that I offered to LB 813, the school textbook loan program. We have adopted the \$150,000 figure. We're putting into place through this amendment the monies that the Department of Ed. needs to operate it and we've got the outside figure, or the cost, the total cost or the maximum cost for this program. I would urge that it is good policy to do it that way so that we know exactly what our costs are going to be or the limit of our costs, and that we not expend anything beyond that. But to not have this program funded, because the rules and regs will not take little or no time to put into place and then to promulgate, the...without the money in place you have no program, you have no program and what we do is just delay a program that has had a very tenuous life and scratched tooth and nail for 18 years to come to life, so to speak, here and I appreciate the support of the body for the recognition is really what it allows for. Again, the issue of what the dollars are going to be will be addressed each budget year when we come back and look for appropriations on that measure, but without the monies in place, you have no idea what is going to take place within the first year, that the program will be in existence. I would urge the adoption of the amendment at this time so we'll have an idea. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT PRESIDING

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Warner, discussion on the Hall amendment followed by Senator Langford.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'd rise to support the amendment as well. I do want to point out as I under...so that as a matter of record, as I understand the statute and the appropriation, I think Senator Hall made reference to it by indicating that this was a maximum amount,