

of government the opportunity to enter into the same kind of obligation as our counties, cities, and villages. It has worked out very well since they have been given that system. And so I move that we accept this bill, LB 692, and in the future it can be of significant benefit to our taxpayers.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. The question is, shall LB 692 be advanced to E & R Initial? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record, please.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays on the advancement of the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: LB 692 is advanced. LB 708, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: LB 708 was introduced by Senator Chambers. (Read title.) The bill was read for the first time on January 19 of last year. It was referred to the Judiciary Committee which reports the bill to General File, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, since there were no committee amendments, I would like to go through the bill first, and then I have some clean-up amendments to offer, but I think it should be clear what the bill is designed to do. I will state it as briefly and succinctly as I can, then I will elaborate from the bill, itself. There is a set of circumstances existing in big-time intercollegiate athletics which is created by NCAA rules, which are very unfair. The NCAA behaves in a way that would make the fascist countries seem like paragons of democracy, but we have a set of circumstances where universities in order to be members of the NCAA, and they must be a member if they want to participate in intercollegiate athletic activities in this country or any of its possessions, they accede to these rules, and one of the rules places a limit on the amount of a Pell Grant that a participating athlete can receive. That limit is \$1,400. The Pell Grant is \$2,100. It is a federally financed administered program and the basis for receiving one is need. So it has to be clear in everybody's mind that we are talking about assistance based on established demonstrated need. The NCAA and universities, recognizing this status of such a player, has decided to impose a rule saying that the needy athlete can receive \$1,400 of this \$2,100. A nonathlete similarly situated, even on scholarship, can receive the full