

programs that provide assistance for them to go to school must be foregone in order to participate in an activity of this kind.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: What I want to say is that what I am really speaking for at this time is the acceptance of my amendment that would remove the language that I touched on briefly.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on the Chambers amendment? Senator McFarland, would you care to discuss the amendment?

SENATOR McFARLAND: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, I would. The amendment, if I can refocus the discussion, the amendment, as I understand it, strikes the reference to felony, and clarifies the penalty provisions, and Senator Chambers has introduced that for that purpose, and I am fully supportive of that. I would like to take a little time now to address the bill, itself, some of the consequences of the bill, and some of the aspects of the bill that need to be considered. I was the only member of the Judiciary Committee who voted against this bill coming out of committee. It was voted out on a vote of 7 to 1. I am not in the habit of defending the NCAA. They are not necessarily one of my favorite institutions. They do do some very beneficial work, I think. I think that generally college sports is a good program in our society. There are abuses within those programs and within that institution. The thing that I want to clarify and the issue that causes me concern with this bill are the ramifications of it. I have passed out a letter that I received from Vice-Chancellor, Jim Griesen, at the University of Nebraska. I had inquired from him what was the status of the NCAA rules with regard to this particular issue. The issue, as I understand it, right now is that for the Pell Grant for the scholarship athlete there is not a great deal of risk for the university and the Athletic Department. What would happen if this bill became law would be that for the scholarship athlete receiving a Pell Grant, the university would allow that Pell Grant to be received in total as required by the LB 708, but what would then happen would be that there would be a reduction in the additional aid that the athlete would get so that the athlete would not get in excess of \$1,400 beyond room, board, books, tuition, and fees. That, for the scholarship athlete, there is no problem. The bill, if passed as amended, would create a problem, however, for what they designate as the