

kicker at the university who is probably not going to play very much at all unless one of the other place kickers gets injured or has a bad streak and goes into a slump. That player may likely not be on scholarship. Maybe all he can do is place kick. But he qualifies for financial assistance. Under the present system, he either can decline the financial assistance and go ahead and take his chance at some...he might get a chance to kick an extra point in a few games, or if the two people ahead of him get hurt or go into a slump or something, he might become the kicker, or he can just decline, or he can accept the award, financial aid, and go ahead and just say, well, I would only probably get to kick in a few games anyway, I am really not getting that much benefit out of it, I will just forego the participation. If an athlete is playing a lot and it really looks like he is going to play a lot of football or basketball or whatever, most likely he will be given a scholarship, like I was given a scholarship. I was a nonscholarship athlete initially, but then once I showed that I could play at the university and I earned a starting position, then I was given a scholarship so there was no problem that occurred. Now what would happen if the bill passes is that by state law in the situation of the nonscholarship athlete who is recruited, and most all of them are, most all of them get some kind of inducement or encouragement to come to the university. Even I did when I was a walk-on. They said we don't have a scholarship to offer to you but we think you can play and we'd sure appreciate it if you tried out for the team.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR McFARLAND: For those type of situations, for the recruited nonscholarship athlete, the law, 708, if passed, would require the university to allow that player to participate and also require that that player received the financial aid. To comply with that state law, it would violate the NCAA rules. With a violation of the NCAA rules, you put the university in the dilemma of being subject to possible severe sanctions. For example, I could see if Nebraska complied with the state law that the NCAA might take away five scholarships for the next year, or require the student to be counted as a scholarship athlete and take away those scholarships. There could be all kinds of negative consequences. What you would be setting up with the passage of this bill would be that type of confrontation...