

SPEAKER BARRETT: Time.

SENATOR McFARLAND: ...and you would be setting up most likely a lawsuit about which no one would be sure of the consequences of the decision. I will try to elaborate on this further.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Chambers, please, followed by Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, and members of the Legislature, Senator McFarland is giving some very clear and precise statements with reference to the bill, what it says, what it does, and the set of circumstances that will be created if it passes, and I am saying that if worse comes to worst, based on the scenario laid out by Senator McFarland, I have no objection to that occurring. I want that to occur. I want us to come face to face as policymakers with the situation where we say a private association demands that we allow discrimination against our students in a state supported institution. That is what we are faced with. Let those in the football world worry about those ramifications. Do we enact a law or fail to enact it when we see clear discrimination based on the inconvenience caused to those who are discriminating? Suppose, Senator Jacky Smith, there were a situation where they said that if a young woman at the university wants to study art and she is entitled to a Pell Grant, the only way she could study art is either to agree to pose for the class or give up her Pell Grant. She shouldn't have to do either one. There shouldn't even be a choice there. If you are entitled to the aid, you should just get it. That is the way it should be with these athletes. Why put them in a situation where they are on the horns of a dilemma, which means that either way you go you are hurt? We are a Legislature saying that kind of situation should be created for our students at a state supported school, and we are worried about inconveniencing those who are doing the wrong. We are turning the victims, which are the players, into the bad people. They are to be punished with the complicity of this Legislature because they want to participate in an activity that is made available by this state supported school that we appropriate money for. We appropriate money for the purpose of discrimination. And because it would inconvenience the discriminators, we don't want to correct the discrimination. Senator McFarland already stated that even if you are talking about these players who have not been given a scholarship but they were recruited, they also...they cannot accept any of the