

have upheld this provision that says indirect aid to students is just fine by the Nebraska Constitution. What do we do here? What do we do in 1990 when we're talking about things such as LB 1059, the total refinancing of our elementary and secondary education. We have folks like the NSEA and the school boards who come in and support those measures, but yet they oppose a provision like this. And they do it based on the foot in the door argument, it's a foot in the door argument. Ladies and gentlemen, I don't know if most of you read this or have had the opportunity to, but if you look at LB 247, the postsecondary Education Committee study that has prompted the total restructuring, in this year, of the postsecondary education system in Nebraska, one of the principal things that they point out that is fundamentally wrong with this system at the higher education level is that foot in the door argument, that, well, if we let those other institutions, whether they be within the system or in the college system, if we let them in the door, let them offer postgraduate studies, then, well, who knows what will happen next. What this study says is that those people need to be incorporated into the system. You need to have a system that recognizes the benefits that are derived from every aspect, in this case, of postsecondary education. What does 346 do? LB 346 recognizes the incorporation of every aspect of elementary and secondary education in the State of Nebraska. That's all it does. It does not appropriate aid to institutions of private education. It appropriates the ability for a tax deduction to parents of kids in schools, all schools that are...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...approved and accredited by the State of Nebraska. It is time for this type of recognition to be passed by the Legislature here today. I would urge you to, because I know many of you are up in the air on this, I know that, I've talked to a lot of you, and you've raised the issue saying that it makes good sense, but I just don't know. I would urge you to advance the bill over to Select File. I think it's hypocritical, at best, for us now to say that because the provision allows for a deduction, based on expenses, and it may benefit those in a private institution to a greater extent because their expenses are greater, makes it not workable, not good policy, is not a good way to think. LB 346 does nothing more than incorporate every aspect of elementary and secondary education in the state together,...