

March 13, 1990

LB 1031

and I urge your support of this amendment to LB 1031.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hall, please.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I rise in support of Senator Korshoj's amendment. As both Senator Warner and Senator Moore mentioned, the issue was one that was dealt with last year and was discussed with regard to the issue of distribution of these funds and how they would be...that would be addressed. That was debated, discussed, and I think settled by this body last year. The question here in Senator Korshoj's amendment is clearly just one of funding. As Frank tends to put it very straightforwardly, it's just an issue of adding more money to the bottom line. But I can't think of an amendment that's been added to the budget, and I voted for some and others I haven't, that probably makes more sense than the \$250,000 that Senator Korshoj would ask that this body add to the student fund program, that helps those who are in the most need. I would urge the body to support this amendment, because, to be real honest with you, the \$250,000 doesn't go very far. There are a number of students out there who need this help, who just flat can't get a college education without some kind of support. This program does an excellent job in that area. I think with the resolution last year of the distribution formula, does not discriminate against what type of institution that student should choose to attend. It just deals with the issue of whether or not that person is needy or not. And the \$250,000 will help those students who are the most needy in this state. I would urge your support.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Chambers, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I also support this amendment. And one thing we know is that the statutes that create these two programs set up who is eligible for this assistance. The student must demonstrate substantial financial need, the difference between what is available to the student and the cost of education. And when they put in the provisos as to what constitutes substantial need, you can see that a student must be needy, indeed, to qualify for these programs. And the language is virtually the same in both programs that the scholarship assistance or the aid will go directly to the eligible student. And there have been various programs that some of us who are very strongly supportive of public education will not support, because we're