

because of the characteristics of the school they select. One of the problems this year was that there seemed to be a fairly arbitrary procedure here for deciding who got funded, and it depended on what date school started. And that meant those schools which started late, that is where the biggest impact was. In fact, at Chadron, no member of the guard was going to get reimbursement. So this simply says whatever method you have to use to do the cutoffs, it has to be fair and it doesn't discriminate unfairly against students. There has to be some rational basis for making those decisions. Secondly, the intent language states that the Military Department shall report when appropriations are insufficient to allow the approval of 1,200 students into the program, and it also puts very clearly in here language that every person who enlists shall be clearly notified that the program may be unavailable due to limited appropriations. I think that begins to address the issue. I am not sure yet that it completely solves it as this seems to be an issue that comes back again, and again, and again, but I think this intent language is important to at least take care of what I thought was a rather irrational way of deciding who got funded this year. Thank you.

SENATOR LAMB: The Chair recognizes Senator Rogers, followed by Senator Crosby, to discuss the committee amendments to the bill.

SENATOR ROGERS: Mr. President, and members, could I ask Sandy a question?

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Scofield, would you yield?

SENATOR SCOFIELD: I will try.

SENATOR ROGERS: Okay. It may not have any bearing on this, probably on this amendment, Sandy, but a couple of years ago, and maybe even a year ago, there was some members supposedly had signed up and then there was not enough money for them, and have you ever heard of that situation?

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Yes, I have, Senator Rogers.

SENATOR ROGERS: Well, have they cleared that up so that if someone signs up for it and they sign them up, will there be money for them, or is that what part of your amendment relates to?