

attend college if they did not attend the Indian Community College. It is simply an example of an opportunity for the residents of that area to take advantage of an excellent educational opportunity and the Indian Community College fills that need, and fills it to their own financial detriment. The Legislature has seen fit to put the money in the budget, and the need, I believe, has been well demonstrated and it has been well documented that it is well used. I just want to say that the rationale for the veto was that the NICC currently receives counseling services from a Wayne State College graduate for a period of time. This was true last year but it is not true at the present time, and so in order to provide equity in funding for this institution, this is a very small amount of money. It is one which serves, not the Indian students, but the non-Indian students, and I feel, and I think the Legislature felt when we placed the money in the budget, that it was well deserved and did make a substantial acknowledgement of the role that is played by the Nebraska Indian Community College in northeastern Nebraska. The institution has functioned for a number of years there. It has done an excellent job. It has provided a fine educational opportunity to Indian and non-Indian students alike, and this is simply a small recognition of the responsibility which the State of Nebraska owes to these non-Indian students who are presently being taken care of for their educational needs at the Nebraska Indian Community College. I would ask you to override the Governor's veto.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Crosby, followed by Senator Schimek.

SENATOR CROSBY: Mr. Speaker, I should have turned my light off. Senator Schmit answered my question. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Mr. President, and members of the body, I will be very brief. I rise in support of Senator Schmit's proposal and I would ask that you look seriously at this \$24,000. By supporting this amendment, you are supporting a group in northeast Nebraska that is disadvantaged, that does not receive funds from the Bureau of Indian Affairs for its non-Indian students. I would also urge you to remember that this was an appropriation last year. It was vetoed last year, so it is not a new program that we are talking about here. It is something that was before us last year also. Thank you.