

because, as you know, our stadium isn't large enough to accommodate all those that want to go, and by being on television, well, those people that do not have a football ticket have an opportunity to see them. Also we have a good basketball team coming up. Do we want sanctions placed against them? I, certainly, don't want to see that, and we have other good college teams across the state. I know we want to say to the NCAA, you are wrong, change it, we are going to legislate so you have to change it. Well, like Senator Peterson said, we may tick them off and, therefore, they would apply these sanctions to us here in Nebraska and I, certainly, don't want to see that. I want to see our college teams have the same advantage, same opportunities as others across our nation and, therefore, I would urge you to vote against this legislation.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hefner. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, the fact that Senator Hefner and Senator Peterson are shaking in their boots indicates why it is necessary for the Legislature to do something. If they, who are not even regulated by the NCAA, are terrified of them, doesn't that show you what is happening with these schools and coaches and these players? But here is the point that I wish we would focus on, the programs that I am talking about represent financial aid going to needy students and the programs are created by our laws already. This bill will not create another program. It says that the Legislature has set out the requirements to be met. Once a person who is attending school meets those requirements, it is not for the NCAA or anybody else to say, I know the state said you can have this aid, but we say you cannot. And you have got senators over there who back us, our rules mean more than your laws. Senator Hefner, that is an insulting, arrogant position for them to take. But let me give you a couple of concrete examples of other things we have done that you probably opposed. Nebraska, right now, is the only state that requires insurance to be provided for its football players, and those benefits have to be at least the equivalent of worker's compensation. The university was opposed to that until they saw that the Legislature intended to do it anyway, and now you have a situation, where if these young men are hurt, Senator Hefner, they are covered by insurance, which was not the case. And there is a young man who is a quadriplegic to this day who at the time he got injured at a Nebraska practice had no coverage by the university and people had to go out and hustle up money