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SENATOR ROBINSON: Am I correct that a Pell grant is for economic...your economic condition, is that correct, sir?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That is the only way you can get it, right.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Right. Okay, what percent now can a student athlete receive on that?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: The last I saw, it was \$1,400 out of \$2,200 but it might have been raised at the last NCAA meeting but, in any case, they cannot get the full amount of it.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Wasn't there some talk in the NCAA, and I think this is what's precipitated Senator Beutler's amendment, that that would be completely...they could use all of that, is that correct? I didn't read about it, I've heard about it anyway through people that that may be raised. Is that correct?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No, Senator Robinson, the bigger schools have been trying to raise that for a long time, but since the little schools outnumber the bigger schools and the little schools are the main culprits, they actually underwrite their athletic programs with the overage from the Pell grant that the student cannot receive. And for those who don't understand how the Pell grant works, that goes directly to the student, not to the school. But in order to participate in athletics, you have to give part of that over to the school because you can only get a certain percentage of it, so that is another thing they are doing. But another aspect of the bill that doesn't relate to the Pell grant are these other aid programs that we've created at the state level, which a needy student who happens to be a walk-on cannot receive any of, nor can they receive academic aid or any other kind, and they are the only category of students at that university where that kind of rule is imposed. They cannot receive academic aid or aid based on need. They are just out there naked, so to speak.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Thank you. I would go on record as in support of Senator Beutler's amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Any further debate on Senator Beutler's amendment? Seeing none, Senator Beutler, do you wish to close?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Just one short statement, Mr. Speaker, again,