

that because I was never convinced that was the right thing to do. I think...you know, when you use General Funds I think it's absolutely correct to have this body make some decisions on approval or disapproval, and let's make the funding decision. But I think Senator Beutler's amendment really takes something away from the Legislature and grants the authority totally to the coordinating commission and takes us totally out of the loop. I guess I am somewhat uncomfortable in that and would oppose Senator Beutler's amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Moore. I'll now recognize Senator Schmit, followed by Senators Withem and Warner. Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, I join Senator Moore in opposition to Senator Beutler's amendment. His suggestion that the Executive Board is not competent may or may not be true, but that does not relieve us of the responsibility to review this type of activity. Senator Moore touched upon the expenditures at the medical school. I'm the only member of this body who, in 1969, really gave away the key to Ft. Knox when I voted for LB 15. That was the start of the Legislature's surrender of responsibility in fiscal matters. And whether that was a correct vote or not depends upon the eyes of the beholder. And there have been some times when I have had to use all of my ability to argue the wisdom of that vote. But I want to say this, that what we do here today is a step in the wrong direction, if we adopt the Beutler amendment. We are saying we don't even want to look at it. We may not be able to do anything about it. And I was admonished to that extent many times when I opposed the use of revenue bonds for the addition to the medical school. Let's take a look at it. As Senator Moore proposed, the original med school proposal was for around \$29 million. I believe, Scotty, it got up to around \$47 million, I think you were a little low. But the point is this, how do you pay for the...how do you pay off those bonds? Obviously you pay them off through revenues from the medical school and the hospital. And so what determines the amount of revenue? That depends upon the amount of charges that you levy against the individuals who use the facilities. The cost of health care is perhaps, and the increased costs of health care is one of the most controversial issues we face today. The fact that the medical school, by virtue of their unbridled building program, through revenue bonds, will be one of the leaders in the charges for services, escalates every other institution in