

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Moore would move to amend the bill. (Moore amendment is on page 1258 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT MOUL: Senator Moore

SENATOR MOORE: Madam President and members, I have passed out a summary of what is AM0843 to this bill and basically what this amendment is would incorporate provisions of a bill introduced that has had a hearing, LB 693, which is also on the Speaker's priority bill. But given the fact that we are dealing with this issue here, we felt, I believe it was with Senator Withem's concurrence, that we amend this bill at this time to address this issue. And basically what it is is do you remember, those of you that were members of the body last year, remember that last year we passed LB 143 which was an equalization formula per se for the technical community colleges. And LB 143 was a bill I believe introduced by Senator Weihing or Senator Baack that I guess I stood up on the floor and was quite critical of. And I think 143 had some very basic flaws, I mean, there was one that you actually...why passage of that bill you gave incentive to community colleges to drive their costs up because they would be rewarded under an equalization formula. I think that is wrong, and also everybody agreed to 143 under the guise that it was only new money and so everybody would have status quo, and if you ever just added money to it, that is all it would apply to. And so what this amendment is, is quite simply, for lack of a better term I guess, is kind of a 1059 for the tech colleges because under current law 40 percent, under current law as passed last year, 40 percent of any increase in state aid over the current fiscal year's level will be distributed as equalization aid. As you can see an amendment I passed out, I mean, you know 58 percent is distributed equally among the six areas, and 42 percent is proportionate to enrollment levels in their respective areas, and only 40 percent of any new money is all that goes into the equalization aid. Under this amendment what you would do is that, as stated here, that whatever the amount of aid this Legislature chooses to appropriate to the technical community colleges, 52 percent of state aid would be distributed equally among the six areas; 38 percent would be distributed proportionate to enrollment levels and 10 percent would now be distributed as under the form of equalization aid. And equalization aid, instead of expenditures, equalization aid to the respective areas would be distributed in inverse proportion to each area as average property valuation per