

over the limited resources in this state among higher education with vigor, and with venom. But two years ago, and again last year, and again this year we have begun the discussion of seeing higher education as a process, as a shared venture, as a collaborative enterprise between a variety of institutions. The people of this state have endorsed that idea by passing a constitutional amendment permitting the commission of higher education to undertake a coordination of all of these resources. Examine Senator Withem and Senator Warner's bill and you will see that it treats higher education as a single resource, as a set of assets for this state. And it does so without a distinction between public and private schools. Now following this bill is LB 760, that has about 18 million dollars of capital construction money in it. Among that capital construction money is the money that goes into this program, about \$750,000. As somebody who has two university campuses in his district, there's a lot in that bill that's good for my people, good for the students who attend the campuses that I represent, and I'm going to be supportive of that bill. On the other hand, it seems clear to me that the old ways of venomous competition among all of our different institutions, our campuses, our parts of the university, our state college campuses, our private institutions need to become a thing of the past, and we need to see higher education as a process, as an opportunity, as part of this state's resources. And the resource that Senator Lindsay asks us to invest in is not brick and mortar for private schools, it's not for curriculum development, it's not even for their faculty, it happens to be for their students. Not even the parents of their students, Senator Hall. And this money is, in my estimation, a fair arrangement to make, given the amount of resources that this body uses for the campuses in my district, for the students that attend public institutions. Seems to me that after a long, hard, competitive fight perhaps we should rethink how we treat each other with respect to this question of higher education. Now don't push me too far here, Senator Hall, who knows. But with respect to today anyway I'm prepared to be this cooperative. And I think it behooves us to see our higher education resources as a process and as a series...

SPEAKER BAACK PRESIDING

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...of opportunities that we give young people