

patterned after the Boys State and the Girls State program which I think is a terrific program. For the \$15,000, the Legislature will be able to house and feed 100 students for one week. This is the amount that the American Legion needed for Boys State and uses for Boys State, but what I think we could do, I think we could go to the state colleges or other groups that was interested in this and let them help us handle it and I think it would be workable. I noticed that last year there were a lot of paid speakers and some of them got a pretty good fee, but my proposal would say that there would be no paid speakers and that administrative costs would come out of the Legislative Research budget, and since this is a slow time of the year for them, I think that they could handle it. And all participants would be responsible for their own transportation cost. I handed out an editorial that was in the Lincoln Journal just a week or so ago and it says, it's entitled, No rerun for academy, and I passed that around with you and I would be hopeful that you just take a minute or two to read this, but I think it says it well. The true losers are kids from poor, difficult or even average backgrounds for whom the leadership academy may have lighted a spark, may have been a turning point. These are not the kinds of high-grading popular school activists regularly found at Boys or Girls State. Also I passed out an article that described last year's conference and I thought this was very informative. I know...I don't see Senator Hall right now, but he was talking about amending this from 15,000 up to \$25,000 a year and I certainly wouldn't have any opposition to this. But hopefully this morning you'll see the need for help of these less gifted students and can support this amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hefner. Mr. Clerk, an amendment to the amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend Senator Hefner's amendment. (Chambers' amendment appears on page 2254 of the Legislative Journal.)

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I applaud Senator Hefner for what he is trying to do here and it shows a side of him which I am extremely pleased to see. Senator Hefner, this is a redeeming quality that I note in you and I want to acknowledge it and recognize it as openly and notoriously as sometimes I have criticized you for other things.