

across the system are much below their comparability, much below, so we're not even talking about them, in a sense, because...or haven't mentioned them but in order to bring them up to comparability it's going to take a significant increase in salaries. So Senator Lynch and I do have different approaches. The other problem with, I felt, with the Senator Lynch approach is that it would send possibly down the line a negative message that the way that this system is institutionally set up is that the Board of Regents essentially makes the decision concerning salaries. We have given them a message in our budget book. We have told them how we would like this...these salaries to be allocated and to be between the different campuses. I hope that they do it that way. I trust that they will but I don't know that they will. And even if they do do it that way, they still are not fully funding those salary increases. They would be funding the salary increases at 90 percent or a little less than 90 percent and the B and C line employees would still be substantially inadequately funded. I guess my last point would be that it seems to me that there's something just wrong with the system here. And Senator Lynch was really getting at it in some of the comments he made. And maybe throwing additional money at it isn't the answer. But I would suggest that this money, this \$3 million is specifically related to specific requests. It's not just a throwing money at the problem concern but there is something wrong with the system. There is something...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR ASHFORD: ...wrong with the system when we can't get adequate information from the Board of Regents, when we can't...when the individual campuses are not allowed to discuss their issues with individual senators and I hope that system changes. With that, I would urge that this amendment be adopted. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Ashford. We will now vote on the Ashford amendment. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 7 ayes, 18 nays, Madam President, on adoption of the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The amendment is not adopted. Do you have anything further on the desk, Mr. Clerk?