

PRESIDENT MOUL: Waives closing, and we will now vote on the Hall amendment to the amendment. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Madam President, on adoption of Senator Hall's amendment to Senator Schimek's amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The Hall amendment is adopted and we will go back to the germaneness question. Senator Beutler, my ruling is that it is germane.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay

PRESIDENT MOUL: We will proceed with debate on the Schimek amendment. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Yes, Madam President and members. I rise to oppose the Schimek amendment. This is an amendment that would give additional budget growth to the technical community colleges. This is probably not necessarily the best time and place to have this discussion, but there has been an ongoing argument for years in this state on just what exactly this animal is. Is it local government? Is it state government? Or what is it? Is it local education? And, obviously, when the technical community colleges come to the Appropriations Committee, they claim we are higher education, we are not local government, we need more money, and they were, thus, treated accordingly this year, as a matter of fact, probably better than they would have been in the past. Now on this timetable, the technical community colleges come to the body and say we are local education, it is like K-12 education, we need greater extension on our lid. And I think...I just don't swallow that argument. With the additional state aid, you remember that the community colleges have a lid that is the same as every other local government in the State of Nebraska besides school districts, and the reason K-12 lids were, when we passed LB 1059, were written as such because that lid was an ongoing lid that goes on into perpetuity. Now the lid on all other local subdivisions, you remember last year when we passed LB 1059, was for two years. Now when we deal with it here, the question is, should you treat the tech colleges like other local subdivisions or like K-12 education, and the argument is still the same. Now if the technical community colleges want to live with this lid as long as the K-12s are, then let's do it. I am