

are the students themselves. When the program started, I thought it was a good program. I was...I shared the concern two years ago when that much money was spent, but I thought that then the next, the following year, we rectified that and brought it in for a small amount of money, and I think that the students are the ones that we should be thinking about. The students that I had were wonderful, and I don't think of them as some kind of at-risk people. For me, they were just fine young people who, if they weren't the class leaders, not everybody is a leader. And so I think when we are talking about this today, we are talking about students and I don't like...I don't like to put criteria in on the people that we choose as to how much their parents own and that kind of thing. That isn't the point. The point is this was supposed to get to some students who normally weren't at the forefront of leadership, organization and that kind of thing, to give them an opportunity, perhaps, to emerge. I have a picture on my desk of the one young man that was at Grand Island two years ago, and he was just a wonderful, just enjoyed him so much and I cherish that photograph because I did get to go to one of the days when they were working out in Grand Island. I didn't happen to go a year ago, but I am going to support the Hefner amendment, I don't know if I am going to vote for this bill or not. I...it saddens me just a little to let a program like that just go down the drain, so if any of you can answer that, that maybe it will be preserved in some way, I would like to hear that, even though if you don't want it in statute. Again, I am speaking out for the students. We started the program. They didn't ask to come down here or go wherever they were spending their week's vacation. They didn't ask for it, we started it. Now we are standing here saying, well isn't that terrible, we spend all that money on those people. We are the ones that started it so don't blame the students. The students that I had and the ones that I met when I was there were wonderful young people and everyone of them I think was there for a purpose and, yes, they enjoyed it, that was our goal, that they were going to come and enjoy it and get something out of it. So, again I speak for the students. I don't know how I am going to vote for the bill itself and I'll listen a little more but I am going to vote for the Hefner amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you Senator Crosby. Senator Lynch followed by Senators Nelson, Lamb, Hall, Robak and Chambers.

SENATOR LYNCH: (No response.)