

students got as much out of it as I had hoped. I think we made a good step last year in the right direction to cut down the amount of money that we were spending on the program, and I am waffling back and forth here because Senator Chambers did make excellent points, Senator Hall made excellent points, and one of my reasons for sponsoring this in the first place is I don't think these at-risk students get enough opportunities to develop their leadership skills, and many of them are potential leaders if we can just get them on the right track. So I am reluctant to let the idea go. I told Senator Nelson, when she came to me a little bit earlier that I might not fight her on this bill this year, that I wasn't satisfied with the results. If we adopt Senator Hefner's amendment, Senator Hefner-Schimek's amendment to this bill, I think I may, Senator Nelson, and I am telling you this now for the first time, I think I may support this program for one more year, and then maybe the next person that gets up and speaks on it will convince me differently. That is how much of a waffle position I am in right now, but I like the idea. I like the program. I just want to see it be developed a little bit more and maybe this is the right way to do it, to make the Executive Board responsible for it, and to set up a committee of legislators who will think about it and give it some time and energy. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schimek. I will now recognize Senator Schrock...Senator Schrock, followed by Senators Hartnett, Nelson, and Chizek. Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: This appears like a good program gone awry, and it looks to me like we ought to start fresh. Senator Hall made a reference to the school at Curtis. If my math serves me correctly, what we spent on that Youth Leadership Academy last year for one weekend for 58 students at about \$400 a student, we could have educated 4 1/2 students all year long at the school in Curtis. So I don't think it is spending money wisely, and it would seem to make sense to me that we are spending a lot of time for a very small amount of money here, but we ought to close the chapter on this nightmare, this thing that has happened for two years and hasn't been run right. And if we need a new program like this, let's start over. So I would oppose Senator Hefner's amendment, and support Senator Nelson on her bill.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Hartnett.