

September 30, 1992 LB 10

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President and members of the body, what we're talking about is the National Guard but we're also talking about education. Now someone can be appointed and go to West Point. They've got a free education, they're an officer, period. They can go to the Air Force Academy. They can go to the Naval Academy. They are getting an education to be in the service to help this country. As I understand it, if you take ROTC in college for a certain number of years, you take the proper courses, you can get a direct commission. So what we're doing is we're saying to people, get an education, we need you with an education. So we're just not talking about soldiers marching up and down the street and the flag, et cetera, we're talking about people who are getting an education. Now Senator Moore made a very, very good talk. He says, we've got to cut, here are the cuts and if you don't want to do this, let's go home. Well, Senator Moore, the cuts are in the eyes of the Appropriations Committee and you do good work. I agree with a lot of your cuts. But we're entitled to some say-so also. So I...it doesn't bother me at all to support LB 10 with the Schimek amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CONWAY: Thank you, Senator Haberman. Senator Robak.

SENATOR ROBAK: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members of the body, I oppose the Schimek amendment. I oppose the bill. I...as I understand the Schimek amendment, it would phase in just those that are in the program now. Is that right, Senator Schimek?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: That's correct, Senator Robak.

SENATOR ROBAK: And those of those National Guard that have spent six, seven, eight, nine months in the Persian Gulf, laying in the sand with the snakes and the scorpions and the vipers and what have you and decided that this was not really the way they wanted to live their life, they would like to go to college and perhaps enhance their way of living, then they would be excluded from the tuition credit. Is that right?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: If they are not...

SENATOR ROBAK: Because they are not in the program now. Those people that have been in the Gulf that are not in the program, they would not fall under this tuition credit. Is that right, under your amendment?