

September 30, 1992 LB 10

SENATOR WILL: Mr. Speaker, I would once again move for the advancement of LB 10 to E & R for engrossment.

SPEAKER BAACK: That is a debatable motion. I have some lights on. I don't know if they want to discuss this. Senator Warner, did you wish to discuss the advancement?

SENATOR WARNER: Not particularly, but I would like to make an observation. This, I think, is the third time that this body has addressed this program, that I can recall, since it was established, and Senator Landis discussed earlier today the last time and the cap that was arrived at then was students, the numbers, 1,200 was the cap. The state then became the victim of another policy, and the state became the victim because our policy has been that we should keep tuition higher, we should put more load on the student, less on General Fund, less on taxes. And then, all of a sudden, we found ourselves now the victim of a policy of increasing tuition which we now find distasteful, but that, you know, that's the same burden the student has, higher tuition. And I don't object to the...I am going to vote for the bill now, but sometimes these policies that we address when we become the victim ourselves, when we force our own costs up, then they are not so tasteful. That is also the same thing we do to the student otherwise, who is not a member of the guard. We up the tuition, we say they ought to be paying more of their share of the cost, reduce the burden on the taxpayer. We all subscribe to that. In this instance, we became the victim of our own policy and the cost is too much, so we are are going to reduce it to what the cost is to our state by shoving it back to the student, which is what we are doing anyway in other cases.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Conway, did you wish to discuss? Senator Schimek. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Just also to add a couple of observations on this particular bill. I remember Senator Goodrich came at the last minute and asked for a deficit appropriation. I think Senator Warner might have been Chairman of the Appropriations Committee at that point, and the reason was that we had a 1,200 cap on numbers but for some reason we kept going over that number. And we were upset because we felt the numbers were there, they should have been abided by, but they came in and said, gee, what do we do? These kids have already been promised. They are already in college.