

would be in this fund?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Yes...\$3 million.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Two million dollars can be for....

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Three million.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: What? Three million. For a former athlete, and I understand what Senator Chambers was trying to do, and I don't necessarily disagree with that. But I do disagree with the fact there's no definition of what we...what we call a former athlete. Again, it could be somebody who tried out for...and says he's an athlete. There's no criteria...and says...was on the team for a year, dropped off, and now we're going to pay him...we're going to have \$3 million in the fund not only to help him on graduating from the university, but also to help him on postgraduate, or graduate work I assume. And I'm a little leery about that, Senator Brashear.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members. It specifically is provided that the university shall grant financial support to former athletes who demonstrate financial need as determined by the federal Pell Grant Program. It was our intent to have the standards, the awarding, the review, and all things consistent with the Pell Grant, and I believe that that's a judgment call. I certainly wouldn't want to say it's only athletes who had two and a-half years of competition, or athletes who had one year of competition. I mean, where do you draw the line? They have all contributed, even some of those who may not have had an opportunity for full-time varsity play. I mean, they all contribute to the...to the totality of what is University of Nebraska athletics, and so I was willing to defer that to the university and its administration and the normal processes for the awarding of scholarships.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Senator Brashear, how do you differentiate between need of a student at the university system that is not an athlete, who is under a Pell Grant, who also...well, who...maybe he's not on the Pell Grant but can't...but has to work their way through, they can't take the full load either, takes them six...five to six years of their own money? Why are these students that you're talking about different from other students who are struggling themselves to