

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. What this amendment does is simply...it keeps the major portions of the bill intact. The first \$3 million goes to the financial support of the athletes which we've...the body has agreed to do. And then the next \$2 million after that, and we're talking about monies over and beyond that which goes into the Highway Trust Fund, the second part is still intact, the \$2 million that goes to the academic services. What is changed by this amendment is the third section. And what is changed is that we say that the first 10 percent of anything over \$5 million will continue to go into the financial support graduate studies program. But anything beyond that will go into the equalization fund of K-12 education. I think it's a better message for us to send as most of these kids K-9 are the ones that will be going to the university and many will be some of the many future athletes at the same time. I do want to be fair to Senator Kristensen, however, and say that if this amendment doesn't go that there is another amendment that I have agreed with he and Senator Beutler to, if this one doesn't go, and that would be that the money...we'll strike the word "athletic" facilities and simply have it be "facilities" with still the 10 percent going back to the fund. So I want to make that clear. It, basically, would be a 309...the next amendment if this one fails would be a 309 amendment but it would specifically put it into the university and state colleges for any facility. I'm more comfortable at least with that because we're not just dealing with athletic facilities. We're dealing with facilities across the board and that's much more on an educational side. We are short on 309 funds. That may, in fact, be the best way to go. So if this amendment fails, that will be the amendment we go to; but I did feel strong enough on this amendment that I at least wanted to get to a vote. And with that, Mr. Speaker, I'll stop.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The question now before the body is, shall the Bernard-Stevens amendment be adopted? All of those in favor vote aye, opposed vote nay. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 8 ayes, 21 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of the amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: The amendment is not agreed to. The house is raised. The next amendment.