

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

February 1, 1999 LB 243

SENATOR JANSEN: Thank you, Madam President, members of the Legislature. I stand to oppose Senator Beutler's amendment. I oppose it on the grounds that that is not where...70 percent is not where we were at prior to 1992. We were at 75 percent then, and I just...and now we're at 50. I might tell you that, you know, we're running a little...a little competition in this state with private...private employers. I noticed in the paper here awhile back where one of the grocery stores in Lincoln were offering college tuition credits to come to work at the grocery store. Fast food chains offer some type of incentive for the young people to come and work. I don't...you know, I just can't understand why we can't...we can't do as well as private industry can. Back in New York, as a result, the New York Guard leads the nation in recruiting, New York Governor George Pataki said, who signed the bill and has been an advocate of the strong guard, he's realized a strong return on that investment. There, again, the money that is spent in this state for a larger recruitment will stay in this state. The monies that go to the education will stay at the universities. Money they spend from their training stays in this state. The Governor of Missouri said, you know, he said what really ticked me off was when Oklahoma, which has 100 percent tuition, started advertising in Missouri. So now there's a bidding war going on. You know a small, a small amount of money, if you figure everything else in this budget, to keep our strength up, which there again, 1,200, 1,200 young people are all that can use this. If it goes over 12, if they have 1,500 young people that are asking for this tuition, then the money is prorated. Only the tuition for 1,200 people. I believe Senator Landis said that he was responsible for that several years ago, and so there is a cap. There is definitely a cap. I can't think of a better way to help protect this state from disasters such as 1949. Senator Crosby, you talked about 19...I remember that very well. I remember what it was like. It wasn't cute. And if it wouldn't have been for the National Guard, with their planes and so on, some of the World War II surplus aircraft, there'd been a lot more cattle lost than what were lost. A lot more people would have been stranded, starved, one thing and another. We forget about those past experiences. Here we have a chance to help the young people in this state, and the economy of this state. I am sure the Governor knows that these dollars turn around, what goes