

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

February 1, 1999 LB 243

the state? And, again, I say to you, they need to be. We should not be pushing forward with something that allows exclusiveness. ACICS is the national accreditation agency which...from which Grand Island College receives their accreditation. Grand Island Colleges offers an associate degree of applied science. This is a two-year degree. It contains business administration, computer, travel management, medical assisting, and legal office administration. The reason I am going forward with this is because I think now is the time to find out if we are going to open this up to whatever occupations or education that is available out there, or limit it in some restrictive type matter. The question of national versus regional I think was answered. This is an institutional accreditation and company. It has been guaranteed, not guaranteed, approved by the U.S. Department of Education, and at this point I would ask that you amend LB 243 to say, on line 5, after the word "regionally", insert "or national organizations recognized by the U.S. Department of Education". Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN PRESIDING

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, Senator Peterson, I...I have to confess I'm not ready to do this yet and I'm not sure what the implications are. I'd like to ask you a couple of more questions.

SENATOR C. PETERSON: Certainly.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Peterson, generally speaking, how...is scholarship money limited in this state, state fund scholarship money, limited to regionally accredited colleges and universities?

SENATOR C. PETERSON: Senator Schimek, in 1997 there was a bill that was amended on Select File to add the words "regional" to Section 85-9145. Before that, eligible postsecondary educational institutions shall mean a not-for-profit institution, not controlled or administered by any state agency or any political subdivision of the state which is, and the way it had been was, accredited by an accrediting organization