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were going to be distributed was through these two funds, which provided for grants. They did not fund ongoing operations. They did not fund salaries. They did not do anything except say, come in with your best grant application, an idea that you know you can't fund otherwise, and we will take a look at it, and then if it meets certain standards, then we will give you the money to do a project that you cannot do otherwise. Any time government gets into the business of providing gambling money for ongoing operations, government is also then in the business of promoting gambling. And in order to fund this ongoing, government must continue to promote gambling. School districts are then in the business of promoting gambling. The message that we send to our kids is that gambling is good because look what we can fund with it, and I believe very strongly that it would be wrong to continue to send that message that we ought to fund ongoing operations with gambling money. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Kiel. For discussion on the Stuhr amendment to the committee amendments to LB 495, Senator Bohlke.

SENATOR BOHLKE: Yes, Mr. President and members, when we have been out visiting schools, one thing that we've noticed with the vocational ed programs is the high cost of the equipment. And as we hear from people about preparing students from...for school to work and looking at some of the new computer programs and computers that wouldn't qualify under the current granting of the lottery funds because they are not new and innovative, but the cost of these, whether it is looking three dimensionally at some tool casting, a number of those things really are of a high cost. And so I rise in support of taking this from the lottery funds. It seems to me that the equipment does happen to be an issue that if schools are going to stay at a level of sending students out ready and prepared to join the work force, the cost of the technology equipment that I've seen would make it almost prohibitive to have a quality program to offer in those schools. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Bohlke. Senator Stuhr, you're recognized on your amendment to the committee amendments.