

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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SENATOR SUTTLE: I...what concerns me about this is our telling the university where they have to spend their money. These are General Funds, correct,...

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR SUTTLE: ...that we're talking about?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR SUTTLE: And you are taking this money out of the General Fund and putting it into a program. Is that correct?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR SUTTLE: I know that you are aware of the Exon decision in the eighties, sometime decade of the eighties, where it was determined that we couldn't tell the university where they could spend their money. Could you explain how we can do that through this amendment and not be found unconstitutional?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: If you make a general appropriation and say, this is your money, and they...they're just free to spend it as they want to, then you're correct. But if you look at this bill, they talk about the university shall distribute money among campuses. There might be other programs within the university that we give money to. I don't know what all of them are, but we can earmark money in this way to be spent a certain way.

SENATOR SUTTLE: Do you think that...the \$3.6 million seems like a lot of money to put into one program. Do you think that it will take this much money to...in order for them to reach their goal of being among their peers?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Suttle, I'm willing to listen to the discussion, hear other people's arguments and suggestions, but I wanted to put before them and the public the amount of money that was at stake, the amount that they knew was at stake and still they chose not to put forth the effort necessary to keep that money. Under the language of the bill, the legislation, the enactments that brought us to this point, their budget could