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distinction. Some work as hard in practice who...

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Time has expired.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...may be or third or fourth string. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Chambers and Senator Friend. The Chair recognizes Senator Aguilar.

SENATOR AGUILAR: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the body. First of all, I'd like to thank Senator Chambers for bringing this discussion to the floor. I think it's very important that it be had here. And one of the reasons I believe so is because of so many phone calls, letters, and e-mails that I've received from people asking the question, how could we even consider this with the state of the budget today? And I answer...my answer is normally that, you know, you need to understand that, first of all, the main importance of bringing this forward is to have the discussion. Second of all, if it were ever to happen, money would not come from General Fund. I would like to give Senator Chambers an opportunity to expand on that, if he would, and I would, at this time, yield the rest of my time to him so he could.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Aguilar. Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, when I say we need to debate, I don't mean just on the floor of the Legislature. I mean it has to be a national debate. And to answer Senator Aguilar's question directly, then to finish my answer to Senator Friend, this bill, if it took effect immediately, would not entail one penny of General Fund money. Nothing is taken from the schools. Nothing is taken from anything that is funded by the general tax dollars. If you can, look at the Athletic Department as an annex. It is not funded from the General Fund. The money is generated over in that area and it's generated by the football team, by and large. Other sports programs lose money. The football team subsidizes them. My intent, going back to Senator Friend's question, is that every member of the