

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 24, 2003 LB 540, 601

offered by Senator Raikes. Senator, this is AM0135. I have a note that you wish to withdraw.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes, did you wish to withdraw that?

SENATOR RAIKES: Yes.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Your second amendment, Senator Raikes, is AM0712. I also have a note on that one.

SENATOR RAIKES: Please.

SENATOR CUDABACK: It is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk, next amendment.

ASSISTANT CLERK: In that case, Mr. President, the next amendment I have is offered by Senator Tyson, Engel, Cunningham, and Connealy. This is AM1286. (Legislative Journal page 1319.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes (sic), you're recognized to open on AM1286 to LB 540. Senator Tyson.

SENATOR TYSON: Oh. You had me confused there for just a moment, Senator Cudaback. Ladies and gentlemen of the body, AM1286 is, in bill form, LB 601. And LB 601 was offered to correct a situation that is unique to the community colleges. It is unique to one college, and that is Northeast Community College. This situation arises because back when the student aid base was set, Northeast Community College had a base of 5,500. They are now paying the price of success. They have 7,000 students. Those of you who have read the amendment will see that on page 2, beginning in line 13, any community college area whose valuation per reported aid equivalent student was less than 82 percent of the average of all community colleges for fiscal year '97-98. The situation then was that there were some problems in the western part of the state. I don't know just exactly how the compromise came to be. But the student aid base for NECC at that time was set at 5,500. It has not been changed. We have a definite problem, which, while we will get