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students. This is a hermetically sealed box in which are found only the private schools. There are three need-based aid programs. The private schools have access to all three; the public schools only to two of them. So, for ease of reference, let me say the programs will be A, B, and C, C standing for PEAP, whose total appropriation I want to cut. Right now, the private schools who have C all to themselves also get money from A and B. As a result of that, private schools get more than 50 percent of the total amount of aid made available, more than 50 percent. There is no way that the state should maintain a program exclusively to benefit private schools and it is closed to any student who wants to go to a public school. This money is not given to a student who has applied and qualified for aid at some central location and, once that qualification has been established, the student gets the money and goes to give it to the school where he or she said attendance would take place. Money is given over to those institutions so, to me, that is aid to those private schools, I don't care how it is denominated or characterized. This budget bill which you all have accepted by adopting the committee amendments, and I don't know what you'll do with it later, but as of now you gave a vote in favor of these committee amendments. I voted no, not to turn my back on or disparage the hard work that the Appropriations Committee has done. This probably has been one of the most difficult sessions for the Appropriations Committee. I recognize that. After we would finish what for some people would be a hard day on the floor here, the Appropriations Committee members had to leave here and go continue their work. So this voluminous committee amendment, which has now become the bill, represents I don't know how many hours of labor, how many gallons of tears shed literally or figuratively. There would probably be enough blood mixed with sweat to give it that delicate, salty taste, Senator Friend. There would be enough blood, figuratively speaking, to keep Dracula and his family alive for the rest of their life, which will never end. So this bill is a monument to that hard work. Nevertheless, there is a part of it that I'm dealing with now which I think is inappropriate. There is a portion of it which I'm dealing with later that I believe to be inappropriate. So I am offering amendments to try to bring the bill into the form that I think is more appropriate. Senator Raikes and his committee, the Education Committee, has done a lot of work to