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LB 407

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the body, I don't know how I'm going to vote on this bracket motion because I'm trying to study the issue and listen to the debate that we are taking place here. But I want to take this time to acknowledge what Senator Chambers talked about awhile ago, not because it did anything for me but because it did some things for some students; that Senator Chambers took the time to go down and straighten out an administration that didn't give a damn about those kids. Anybody that knows Senator Chambers knows when he takes an issue on he does the job, and he did the job down there and I want him to know how much I appreciate it, and not for me but for those kids. That's what's important when kids go to school. So I think I owe him a debt of gratitude and I know those kids down there do and, by the way, he got rid of the administrator that was causing all the trouble, which is the best thing that ever happened to any school when you got that kind of administration in charge of it. Getting back to the issue of what we're talking about as far as the bracketing on this motion, on this bill or on this amendment, it puts a lot of us, I'm sure, in a very difficult position. I had a daughter that went to one of these private schools. She didn't get any of this PEAK (sic) money, or whatever kind of money it is, but she got a good education. And hopefully when kids go to college that's what they go for, is to get a good education, and I'm thankful that she was able to get the kind of education she was able to get. So you have to understand I'm sure, and most of you do, that it puts you in a difficult spot to take funds away from these schools; that maybe some kids...maybe some kids who want to go to that school wouldn't be able to go to it if they didn't have help. On the other hand, when you take...and this is why I have so much concern in my heart about how to go on this kind of issue, because we're sitting here with shortage of money, a shortage of money and taking state dollars and giving it to a private for-profit institution. So how do you weigh those things? The way I'm going to weigh them is to continue to listen to what the debate is, and I'm sitting here watching people on one side of this issue that I would think be on the other side, and people on the other side of the issue that I would think would be on that side. So it's become a very difficult issue to try to come to some kind of semblance of how