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FLOOR DEBATE

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distinction is that there would be, to move us from where we are right now to where we would be in three years, roughly, there is a transition program that would deal with awards presented to...and I'm describing the way the program 's now. And as Senator Chambers mentioned, we're...you know, we're going to discuss this. But my view, at least, is that there would be a transition program that would deal with private and independent college students. But in addition to that, you would have all the other students served by awards from this single program. In addition, I would mention that currently we're...the state contribution to the total of the three programs is about \$5.8 million. And that would be increased by adding some lottery money, in the end, to about \$4 million per year of lottery money. So we would be restructuring the way we distribute the funds, and increasing the total pots...the total pot of funds available for need-based aid. If I didn't answer your question, please try again.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: No, Senator Raikes, that's fine. Senator Chambers, if you'd yield?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, I will.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Just...the mechanism presented under LB 574, is that something you're agreeable to, then, as far as...?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes. The only tie-up I have is the length of the transition period. But that's something I think we can work on. And that is not going to the core of the arrangement and the way the bill is supposed to operate. That part I'm not going to mess with.

SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM PRESIDING

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature. In the absence of the Speaker, I had said that I