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FLOOR DEBATE

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received tuition credits while a National Guard member." So, if there are people who are now in harm's way, so to speak, but they hadn't gotten any of these tuition credits, but there are people who have gotten them before and they didn't deploy into Iraq, they have priority over those who went to Iraq. That's why it's bad to bring a bill like this during the circumstances that exist in the world today, because it's not necessarily going to benefit those who are in Iraq. They can get the 75 percent. But whether 75 or 100 percent, with an amendment such as this, the ones who get priority are those who've gotten this money before. And if those who have gotten it before gobble up whatever money is appropriated, there's not going to be any left for the others. This is something which, at first blush, seems so alluring, so patriotic that nobody can turn against it. But remember, what is the last hiding place of a scoundrel? Patriotism. When everything else fails, wrap yourself in the flag and say, I'm a patriot. This is not a wise expenditure of state money and it certainly shouldn't be done simply because there is an unwise war going on in Iraq. I'm glad that some people were listening to what Senator Thompson said about the federal programs, because when I had mentioned, from an article that I was reading, some things on it, I think it got lost in the other parts of my discussion that people didn't like. But what I'm going to do, get as much opportunity as I can to speak, but I will withdraw my amendment. When that is done, we will vote to not accept the committee amendment. But when that committee amendment is before us, I'm going to speak on it also. If this country, if Nebraskans are comfortable with young men and women dying for nothing, how can you be uncomfortable when all I want to do is use a little time to speak a few words while you sit in comfort in overstuffed chairs not doing anything, not thinking, just being here? Well, regardless of how anybody else feels, I'm going to say what I have to say. Mr. President, pursuant to what we're trying to do, I would like to withdraw my pending amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: It is withdrawn. Thank you, Senator Chambers. We're now discussing the Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee amendments themselves to LB 96. Senator Schimek. Senator Schimek.