

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

February 2, 2005 LB 96

Legislature, assuming that any money is appropriated, the way the bill is drafted, there is nothing in the law that requires the same percentage of tuition payment to go to all of the ones who receive assistance. Discrimination can be built into the program, as this bill is drafted, because a bureaucrat makes the decision as to who will get the money and as to how much. I don't know if you give that kind of leeway to anybody in the state when it comes to dispensing public money. I don't know that the university even operates like that. I think they might have criteria, and whoever fit within these criteria are entitled to certain things in the way of consideration. What you have done is to say that you're going to allow a bureaucrat to say, 100 people may be in this program...no, I think 50...well, 70...well, I think 300. Somebody will get \$8, somebody will get \$80, somebody will get \$8,000. And none of that will violate the law, as you've written it. When you write a law that is that loose, you have not behaved prudently. This is not the work of reasonable, prudent persons. But it's typical of the Legislature, because I controlled you this morning, and I made you do something that's against your best interest as a Legislature. Oh, Senator Friend is gone. But I was going to say, I bet he didn't realize that at some point I would make him rise to the bait and talk back to me this morning. Because he made up his mind, I'm sure, that he wasn't going to say anything. I tell you, you know your children, all my children, and I care about all my children. Some are obedient, some are disobedient, some are hard-headed. But that's what you find in life, and that's what you find in families. I don't think this bill ought to move. A message, though, I think, was given by that vote on these private, independent, nonprofit schools...or not-for-profit. I'm going to have a host of amendments by the time this bill gets to Select File. I'd like to ask Senator Janssen a question.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Janssen, would you yield to a question from Senator Chambers?

SENATOR JANSSEN: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Janssen, have you started counting your votes to see if you have 33?