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public money. It ought to go to public institutions. I have not supported the subsidization of private and independent schools with taxpayer money. If these private, independent, and religious schools want to offer alternative education, that's fine. In their schools they can teach anything they want to, and people can choose to go there or not. But there should not be a direct or indirect subsidization of those schools from the General Fund, where everybody's money is placed. So this amendment would not allow the support that goes to these National Guard people, who got into the Guard, by the way, to make some extra easy money. That's why they got in. They know that they're not trained for combat, and the military know it also. The National Guard is fundamentally a federal operation. The vast majority of the funds come from the federal government. The federal government has the final word on what the Guard will do. The states have the Guard in a holding action. As long as the federal government does not need them, they have to have someplace to reside. They get equipment from the federal government, in addition to the money. So let the federal government assume the primary responsibility. And since the Guard wants to fight me and show everybody in this state who might have a bill before the Legislature how easy it is to whip me, they're going to be given that opportunity on this bill, on this day, as a start. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Chambers, there are no further lights on. You're recognized to close on AM0434.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. In addition to what I've said already, members of the Legislature, why do I oppose this bill? The current law gives these people 75 percent of what it takes to go to school. There are other employees who do as much for this state as the National Guard people do. The National Guard people, and those who belong to the Army Reserves, which are two different operations, did not anticipate that they would be maltreated in the way that they are by their U.S. government. They are taken and placed into combat without adequate training for combat, without adequate equipment when they get there. There were some National Guard people who refused to ride or be a part of a convoy delivering equipment or supplies because the