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FLOOR DEBATE

March 22, 2006 LB 968

community...the various community college branches together over the summer and working on it. I was still on the Revenue Committee the following January; nothing had been done. I voted against Senator Flood's tax increase for Northeast Community College last year because the funding formula is flawed. I voted...I did, when I was on the Appropriations Committee, we had cut the community colleges, and we did give them an additional levy authority to increase their levy to respond to some of the funding cuts they incurred. But I won't support Senator Loudon's amendment, I didn't support Senator Flood's amendment, because there is a fundamental flaw in the formula, and nobody seems to want to address it. I don't know if it's one community college fighting with the other, but there's a problem. I don't think we should throw good money after bad if the funding formula is flawed. I did notice that in the appropriations bill that went across, there was some additional funding for community colleges. I didn't say anything at the time, but I'm going to be looking at that at Select File, because the formula is flawed. It's time to address the issue, grab the bull by the horns, so to speak, Senator Loudon, and resolve the problem, not just keep throwing money at it.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Senator Wehrbein, you're recognized.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I'm going to be very, very brief. I would simply agree with Senator Landis, I think, not to load this bill down any more than it's done. I think there's been some very good points made about the formula. I think it's time to move on and get some things accomplished yet this afternoon. Thank you.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Mines. The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do see five hands. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SENATOR BAKER: Debate has been ceased. Senator Loudon, you're