

(Start of Belt #16)

Milford, for example, was a state institution when the state went into the sales-income tax and now the state is abrogating its responsibility and it would be just like turning the University of Omaha back to the property tax and it seems to me like we are running against the Constitution of the state of Nebraska when we require a one mill levy for let us say Milford.

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Whitney, I think what you are arguing is the merits of 533 rather than this appropriation. I would assume that if 533 gets over on Select File, and you want to offer an amendment that the state provide all the funding, which as I recall is roughly and additional five million dollars, I think that would be the appropriate time to offer that motion. At this point, all we are doing is providing the funding in the same total dollar amount, the same level of appropriation that was in 259 or in the Governor's budget bill for Technical Community Colleges but we are reallocating those figures to fit the configuration of...or the boundaries which are contained in 533 with no change at this point of the total dollars that were appropriated in 259.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Well, Senator Warner, if we did, however, take off that mandatory one mill levy, then wouldn't there have to be a greater amount of money put into LB 582 in order to support the State Community Colleges.

SENATOR WARNER: As I understand it, at the same level it would be approximately five million dollars more.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Five million dollars more.

SENATOR WARNER: Five million additional, approximately, not quite.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Yes. So it would seem to me that now is a good time to be discussing this because you have to add another five million dollars to this LB 582 then if this mill levy were taken off of LB 533, isn't that correct?

SENATOR WARNER: The point is, Senator Whitney, I think you have to get that off of 533 first. You can't do that here.

SENATOR WHITNEY: Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Any further discussion now of the Warner amendment? The question is shall the Warner amendment then be adopted? All those...Senator Warner, do you want to close on this in anyway? The question is shall the Warner amendment then be adopted to 582. All those in favor vote aye. All those opposed vote no. You are voting on the Warner amendment to LB 582 on Select File. Thank you. The clerk will record.

CLERK: 31 ayes, 1 nay, 17 not voting.

PRESIDENT: The amendment is adopted. What's the next amendment on the desk?

CLERK: Senator Wiltse and Senator Cal Carsten asked to be excused for the balance of the day.

PRESIDENT: Are there objections to their absences. Senator Carstens and Senator Wiltse. Hearing none, so ordered.

CLERK: The next amendment I have, Mr. President, is offered by Senator Barnett.

PRESIDENT: Senator Barnett.