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LB 357

SENATOR BEUTLER: My amendment is on the funding process, and my remarks are directly relevant to that amendment in the sense that I believe that this entire proposition is a dubious proposition. In that light the contribution of the state to that proposition should be severely limited if not decreased altogether, not eliminated altogether. I am talking about a decrease in funding or a decrease in the state commitment. I'm telling you why I'm in favor of a decrease in the state commitment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: But you are basically talking about state commitment, is that right? About the contribution, the funding process?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, proceed. You have about a minute left.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay, Wisconsin, if they build their school and that is what the question is right now, not only would 17 to 19 slots be vacated at Minnesota, but Wisconsin itself may have up to 20 spaces available as published in the newspaper, I believe just yesterday. So 20 at Wisconsin, 17 at Minnesota, some more at Iowa, Kansas State, Missouri now has changed their policy. Before Missouri only entered into reciprocity agreements with regards to veterinary slots, veterinary college slots. Now they are accepting full price contracts as of this year and they are entering into one with Puerto Rico and they are willing to enter into them with other states, including Nebraska. That is a possible nine more slots. It looks to me like there is a possibility of 50-60% more slots as opposed to the seven slots that we are losing all together at Oklahoma State and Colorado State. So, it seems to me clearly a scare tactic to say that we are in danger of losing our contract places. That to me is always the principle argument for the school.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have about 15 seconds.

SENATOR BEUTLER: I might also mention that in addition to these schools TUS is being built and in operation this year. Mississippi, Tennessee, Florida, North Carolina and Louisiana are all going to be built and in operation in the next two or three years.

SPEAKER MARVEL: His time is up Senator Schmit.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Thank you Mr. Speaker.