

the fact that if possible it would assist him and the whole process if you could get your requests in for bills by Thursday of this week. Are you ready to go on 526?

CLERK: Yes, sir. Mr. President, LB 526 was introduced by the Education Committee and signed by the members thereof. (Read title.) The bill was read on January 17 of last year. It was referred to the Education Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. I have amendments pending by Senator Koch that were printed in the Journal last year, Mr. President. I believe that copies are being distributed or will be shortly distributed.

SPEAKER MARVEL: The Chair recognizes Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. The amendment is being prepared obviously to be passed out but let me give you the intent of the bill. The amendments really do not change the intent except to clarify the procedure. The purpose of the bill and the intent is to require reimbursement for tuition remissions as it affects the National Guard and the active Reserve and what we are doing with the amendments is to merely prescribe a certificate and procedure under which this takes place. The fact that Community College will issue to the National Guard where it might be a document stating that a certain number of students have participated and they have completed a certain number of hours so therefore at the receipt of this certificate the National Guard would then submit to the community colleges or to the University system or state colleges that money which is entitled to them. There has always been a question in my mind when we forgive some of the tuition particularly in community colleges that we are not infringing in an action that possibly is unconstitutional because you know community colleges are sponsored considerably from a property tax and not all from state monies. Indirectly then, the property owners could very well be subsidizing the National Guard for a program which is used primarily to motivate people to enlist in our National Guard. The National Guard will tell you that this program is indeed valuable in terms of offering a benefit to those who serve this state in that kind of a military position. In visiting with Senator Warner a moment ago you may have a statement here on fiscal impact, however the Appropriations Committee had the foresight to see this bill and they appropriated the money so that money is in place and the National Guard now will merely pay to the community colleges, the University system, state colleges, that part of the credit that has been forgiven