budgetary times.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Nichol.

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature, I don't like to talk twice on one item but I want to alert you what I think this says, and I would like to have you think about this in the future. What I think this says is that if any member in a community can prove that there is a need for a course in a technical or community college, they can demand it. If the Board of Governors does not put it in, they have legal course to force them to do it. I hope you will look into this carefully in the future to see if this is not correct. If this is not correct, I would like to have someone stand up and say so.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Richard Peterson.

SENATOR RICHARD PETERSON: Mr. Speaker and fellow colleagues, I rise to oppose this bill. I have a resolution that was just passed by my technical college up at Norfolk and they strongly oppose this. I have got to go along with...echo the words of Senator Don Dworak. I think he put it better than what I can say but I don't think this is the year. I think it is a good concept. I think maybe in the future we could be looking at this but right now with the economy and that there is no way that I can see that we can afford it. So I would oppose this LB 896.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Howard Peterson, we have less than one minute on this bill.

SENATOR HOWARD PETERSON: Mr. Chairman, it seemed to me that Senator Koch, as often as he speaks on this floor for local control, would oppose this bill himself. I know that the Central Area Technical College is opposed to it because they believe they can make the decision on their own and I personally believe that is true. And I think Senator Nichol is absolutely right, we are mandating an expense here that most local technical community colleges cannot afford and they ought to be able to make the decision on their own.

SENATOR CLARK: The time is up on the bill and we have additional speakers on it so we will go to the next bill. But I would like to introduce Bill Martin from Denver and Bob Kutz from Grand Island, friends of Senator Don Wagner. They are under the South balcony. Would you stand and be recognized please. Welcome to the Legislature. #799.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, LB 799 (read title). The bill was referred to the Banking, Commerce and Insurance