

April 6, 1982

LB 761

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Mr. President and colleagues, this is an amendment that I know a number of you have been contacted about previously. It is an amendment that makes scholarship fundings available to private colleges in the State of Nebraska. Now Senator Wesely and Senator Koch and Senator Cullan previously have argued for this amendment but in the form that they presented this amendment funds would have been added to the budget. What we do here, and I know a number of you have received a handout on this, is to shift the funding around so that the current publicly funded Universities receive a pro rata reduction and those funds are then made available to the private colleges in the State of Nebraska so they can offer scholarship funding as well. Now there are important equity reasons I think for making scholarship funds available to the private schools. In addition to that there is some question as to whether we will continue our federal eligibility for these funds if we don't treat all institutions that teach college level courses equally in the State of Nebraska. I would be pleased to attempt to answer any questions anyone might have. This has no fiscal impact. It does not increase the budget. It simply redistributes the funds within the budget. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I wonder if Senator Hoagland would answer a question.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Yes.

SENATOR WARNER: If I understand your amendment correctly, Senator Hoagland, as you say, it does not add any money, I would assume, am I correct if I assume that you are reducing the amount of scholarships that will be available for students at the University and the state colleges and the technical community colleges?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Yes, it does do that, Senator Warner, That is correct.

SENATOR WARNER: Thank you. I would have to stand to oppose the amendment. We have gone through this a couple of other times. The amendment, as I understand it, now then does not add additional money which I would also oppose because of the situation we are in but I think that it would be even less desirable or more undesirable to reduce the funding for those students attending the public institutions as apparently the amendment will do in order to fund those

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