

University and it does not affect the funds that were appropriated last year and in fact, increases the need-base and leaves the increase for the need-based programs. Attached is also a list of the institutions that hopefully can take advantage of this should you be willing to support it and so far this morning most of the amendments have fallen onto hard times and it seems this might be a good opportunity for you to support something finally this morning. Because who will you be helping? You'll be helping Bellevue College, Bishop-Clarkson Memorial Hospital College of Nursing, College of St. Mary, Concordia College, Creighton University, Dana College, Doane College, Grace Bible Institute, Hastings College, Midlands Lutheran College, Nebraska Christian College, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Platte Valley Bible College, Union College and York. It seems to me to make sense that we re-establish our priorities without affecting our good institution at the University of Nebraska at all. We don't really touch that nonneed money. I think we should establish a priority that offers to needy Nebraska students a chance and our priorities should be that we offer those students that help. I think this is a good amendment without affecting or hurting anyone. It's a simple amendment. I would hope you would support it and I ask for your support for this amendment now. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The speaking order on this amendment is Rod Johnson, Senator Wesely, Senator Warner and Senator Labeledz. Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President and members, I rise to support my colleague from Omaha, one of the few times we've been together this year, but as a matter of fact this is a particular issue that I've had a great deal of interest in since I've been in this body and I know that Senator Goodrich and former Senator Kahle and some others had worked very hard to try and get some money into the the state scholarship program to get it started. You know, we've had the state scholarship program in this state for about five or six years now and never once have we put enough money into the program or any money into the program to actually get it started and to assist the young people of our state that are so desperately needing the financial aid to attend a postsecondary institution. Certainly I'm interested and from the standpoint that it provides financial aid to students from Nebraska, all over the state, not just at the