

March 27, 1986

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PRESIDENT: What is your wish, Senator Chronister?

SENATOR CHRONISTER: Take it up now.

PRESIDENT: Take it up now. Senator Warner, you are recognized on your motion.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I hate to take the time. If it wasn't for the fact that we are eliminating program after program in our public secondary, postsecondary institutions because of lack of funds, I wouldn't feel so strongly. We talk about the number of times that we get ourselves in difficulty session after session by adding new programs when we are unable to fund what we have. It doesn't mean that the program that is new isn't nice. What it means is we do not have the funds. But, aside from that, the issue is bigger. I mentioned earlier, under the criteria in which these funds are distributed, the part-time student is secondary. Priority shall be given to full-time students. Yesterday that was the concern. The part-time students, those that had to work, couldn't go full time, ought to be taken care of. This bill, based on need, and those that probably have the greatest need are second rate. Need, again, is based upon the cost of tuition and I appreciate the independent colleges wishing to do that, but the fact remains because the tuition is significantly higher, looking at the '85-86 tuition with the exception of one, they range from nearly 3,000 to just under \$6,000 per year, where the public institutions, including the state colleges, including the community colleges, ranges from a low of 575 to a high of about \$1453 at UN-L. And so by the very definition of need under the law, most of those students do not qualify. Now, I happen to believe because of the state funds that are distributed and there is \$7.5 million in '85-86, I happen to believe that those programs under which the state funds are distributed are important. A portion of it is need, a portion of it is mandated scholarships by statute, as I indicated earlier. A portion of it is membership based which are those, I mentioned earlier, war orphans, reserve. And a portion of it is service based which may be a variety of things including football scholarships but not at UN-L, or athletic scholarships. But it also includes for teaching assistance and research assistance some work study, the kinds of programs that are also a normal part not only of public institutions but private institutions as well. And there is grants included in those funds for faculty family and it varies from campus to campus, but those are typical as well as public and private

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