

the amendment that I think it is just totally wrong when we face cuts in the basic academic programs, the state colleges, the community technical colleges, and UN-L system, and we talk about closing institutions, we talk about cutting back and no expansion of programs, et cetera. We talk about cutting back the Postsecondary Education Commission and a variety of other things. At the same time, we are talking about a million and a half dollar expenditure to provide scholarship money for some independent schools in light of declining enrollments at the regular public institutions and I hope this body reconsiders what they did a minute ago and support Senator Warner in his kill motion.

PRESIDENT: Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I rise to support Senator Warner's motion to indefinitely postpone LB 190 and I am going to give you just a slight bit of history. LB 190 was a dead bill a year ago. Do you remember? Do you recall? We killed it. We killed this bill one year ago on General File. But there was a resurrection of the dead and the bill was brought back to life and it has hung on General File since that time. In fact, I was startled even to see the bill on the green sheet because I thought the bill's life had terminated. But, obviously, I was incorrect. I think it takes a fair amount of chutzpah to come and ask for another one and half million dollar appropriation when this year we cut back our funding of elementary and secondary schools through losing state aid, when this year we cut back our funding of postsecondary education in this state and now to come in and ask for a one and a half million dollar appropriation for a scholarship program for students irrespective of where they go to school, in light of what we've done, in light of what we have had to do for public responsibilities, to me, goes too far, just goes too far. Senator Warner has given everybody here all the rationale about the need based program and about the expense program and so on and so forth. Those are kind of the subtleties. I am just giving you what aren't the subtleties but what I think are the simplicities. The simplicities are, we make priorities and our first priority is to make certain that we have adequately supported our public institutions through our public money and as long as we are cutting our public institutions, which we have been doing, we have no business, no business appropriating any money for all of our institutions, both private as well as public. Senator Warner is correct in his kill motion.