

that I'm proposing? It would increase Peru State's General Fund money, if you added the \$80,000, it would make a 1.2 percent increase in their General Fund which is the low figure in that area that Wayne State College has. On the last page it's simply a bar graph to illustrate the General Fund appropriations of all the institutions and Peru State College is the only one where this enrollment was...where this figure is below the bar. I know that Senator Warner is going to oppose this amendment and I will also have to agree that he is probably the unquestioned expert on finances and I know it's not a very good time to be proposing an increase in the budget. But I do this and feel very comfortable about the recommendation. I'm not very optimistic about the outcome, but there is a very viable institution down at Peru State College and I hope those that I hear mentioned every once in a while, we close Peru State College, it's not going to save the State of Nebraska any money if you're going to educate those young people. They have to go to school some place and you simply shift the students from one institution to another, you're not going to make any savings unless you have a cut in enrollments and you would have a lot of young people in that area, a lot of retreads. There are a number of people, young farmers, who are going back to school to pick up their education so they can do something else. We've had a serious loss of jobs in southeast Nebraska and we have a lot of young people who are picking up classes so they can qualify for other jobs and I think this is something we have in all of rural Nebraska. I think we should do everything we can to help those people that are trying to retrain for other jobs. I would urge you to look very carefully at this and hopefully you would support it. Like I say, I'm not too optimistic, but I think it's a worthy cause. Thank you.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you, Senator Remmers. Senator Warner, please, on the Remmers amendment.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise to oppose the motion to increase the Peru General Fund appropriation. In the case of Peru, well let me back up. One of the constant arguments, the discussions we always have in higher education is the General Fund-Cash Funds appropriations and whether or not any portion of Cash Funds, additional Cash Funds should be used to offset in part General Fund increases or for that matter, to give a General Fund decrease, every agency we do total budgets, Cash and General Fund, federal funds if that is appropriate. In the case of Peru with their Cash and General Funds combined the current year authorize, they are