

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Robinson. Does anyone else wish to speak to this amendment? Seeing none, do you wish to close, Senator Warner?

SENATOR WARNER: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I'm properly chagrined. I know this is the first time that I can remember in my life that there was an amendment offered on Select File that did not have a public hearing and I know, as a body, we will never, ever do this again, never, ever. There is no motive by this, by the way, Senator Robinson, you were making an, I think, applying an allegation that this was to kill the bill. I will vote for the bill with this amendment. We are making a major policy change. The policy, disregard tuition remission now, the policy in this state has been for a good many years that...and essentially you're helping...the argument, at least in the past, has always been that when we do these tuition student grants types of programs that's to help people who otherwise couldn't attend an institution of higher education, whether it's private or public or proprietary, independent. It was to help low income. The policy we have always had is that you had, as it turned out, two distribution formulas, actually it was three, in which all institutions shared, and it was kind of a common denominator but there was different formulas that favored one over the other, but that was the concept. There is a major policy change, from my viewpoint, and that is that now we are establishing a single cut distribution formula for one type of postsecondary institution. I merely took the position if we're going to do that, let's do it, have one for the matching of federal funds, one for public institutions, one for independent and proceed. I don't know where that is so revolutionary. If we're going to make a major policy change, let's do it clean. That's what this amendment did. As I indicated, the reason for eliminating proprietary was the discussion I heard on General File. The discussion was that those profit-making institutions should not have the same help and I am accepting that argument. Yes, the way the amendment will be drawn, at least the A bill, why the funding, in fact, would go that they currently receive under two of the three programs, would go to the independents. I don't know if they know about it or not. They, obviously, don't have a...I assume, don't have a full-time lobbyist. It's true, I didn't have it printed in the Journal. I don't know how many 22-page amendments we print in the Journal but maybe we do several, I don't know. But it was distributed at least...I thought it was