

if they want to be treated like K-12 across the board on total budget, on lid...and a lid into perpetuity, well, let's do it. But they want the best of both worlds and I am strongly opposed to that, as I am opposed to the amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Moore. Senator Hefner, followed by Senator Lynch.

SENATOR HEFNER: Madam President and members of the body, I rise to oppose this amendment. Here on our state budget we reduced the budget to state agencies by 2 percent this coming fiscal year, and 3 percent in the next fiscal year, and here we have community colleges coming to us and wanting more of an increase. Surely, Senator Rasmussen and Senator Schimek, these community colleges can put up with this for a short time. Surely they can figure out a way. When you get more students, you should be able to operate a little more efficiently. You don't have to hire, if you have an additional 10 students, surely you wouldn't have to hire another instructor in that particular case. So I think we ought to stick by our guns and stay with this lid, and not put a hole in this dike, because once we do this, well, then we will have other subdivisions of government want to be exempt from the lid or want an increase in the lid. And I just don't think that is the right way to go. We have shown in state government that we are serious about cutting back spending by reducing the budget to the agencies in state government, and so if these agencies can live with a reduction in budget, certainly the community college should be able to live with a little less increase. So I would encourage you to oppose this amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Hefner. Senator Lynch. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Question.

PRESIDENT MOUL: There is no one else wishing to speak on the issue, if Senator Schimek would like to do closing.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Madam President and members of the body, I would be brief in my remarks and try to cover some of the high points here that I think you should remember when casting your vote. This amendment calls for a three-fourths vote of the Board of Governors, a super majority, so that I think limits to some degree the amount of times that this will actually happen. I think that you have to remember that just because we passed