

Vocational Education

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The Perkins Funds

and

Iowa's Community
Colleges

February, 1993

**IOWA EDUCATION IS IOWA'S
FUTURE**

The State Board of Education

Three Critical Objectives
Relating to

The State Vocational Plan
and
Perkins Legislation

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- The economic health and development of Iowa require that services for training and retraining be provided to adults through Community College programs and services.
- The State Strategic Plan requires Community Colleges to increase their efforts in providing information about these services, to increase cooperation with other agencies in economic development, and increase arrangements with business and industry to develop customized training and enhance worker productivity.
- The purpose of the new Perkins Legislation is to provide all segments of the population with necessary academic and occupational skills needed to work in a technologically advanced society.

ACCESS AND RETENTION

- **The State Plan and Perkins Legislation require Community Colleges to effectively provide educational services necessary for removing barriers and ensuring success in vocational-technical programs.**

(Ref. Objectives 1.7, 4.6, 4.11)

- Perkins Funds at Iowa's Community Colleges provide services that have made it possible for special population students to be successful in our vocational-technical programs. These services include:

- Special Assessment
- Career Exploration
- Notetaking
- Tutoring
- Teacher Aids
- Interpreter Services
- Low Vision Assistance
- Early Warning Monitoring System
- Instructors Inservice — Working with Special Populations
- Placement Assistance
- Counseling
- Transition Services
- Curriculum Improvement (Job Specific Competencies)

RESOURCES

- The State Strategic Plan requires resources to be available to match community needs. Increased enrollments and occupational preparation require increased funding, or at a minimum, stability of funding to support successful programs and services.

(Ref. Objective 4.5)

THE PERKINS MONIES

- Perkins Legislation allows states to determine the split of funds between secondary and post-secondary funding. The split is to be determined by the results of a needs assessment.
- There is in fact new information that was not available when the original decision relating to the distribution of Perkins Funds was made.
- Unfortunately, we are not discussing the distribution of new monies, rather the reallocation of monies from ongoing, viable programs to new, undefined programs.
- The Supplemental Needs Assessment documents the strong Community College need for vocational programs and services. Resources to support Community College efforts in providing programs that meet the objectives of the state plan must be available from Perkins Funds or other resources if the Colleges are to maintain and develop the programs and services necessary.

THE AUDIENCE

- The average age of Community College students is now 27 years. These average age students are mature adults. These students have experienced adult life with its assorted opportunities and problems. Typical of these adult students who have participated in Perkins-funded activities at our Community Colleges are the following:

Community College Profiles —

**STUDENTS IMPACTED BY
PERKINS FUNDS**

Wanda —

- Iowan
- Married 20 years
- Homemaker
- 3 children
- Divorced

- New Directions for Career Advising
- Industrial Automated Technology
 - Funded by Perkins
 - Introduce Women to Non-Traditional Careers
- Medical Laboratory Technician Program
- Featured on ABC's "Good Morning America" - October, 1991
- Graduated
- Employed as Medical Lab Tech

Vu —

- A New Iowan
- Economic Limitations
- Academic Limitations

- Special Tutoring Provided
- C.N.C. Manufacturing Program
- Vietnamese Tutor in Language
- Dramatic Improvements Academically
- Will Graduate This Spring — 2.5 GPA

Robbie —

- An Iowan
- Deaf
- Recent High School Graduate

- Enrolled in Auto Body Program
- Hearing Interpreter Provided
- Supported by Comprehensive Learning Center
- Tutoring Provided in Math

Shirley —

- An Iowan
- Worked as Nurses Aide
- Academic Difficulties
- Goal to Become a Nurse

- Enrolled in Success Center
- Special Tutoring Provided
- Counseling Provided
- Enrolled and Completed LPN Program
- Currently Enrolled in ADN Program

Cynthia —

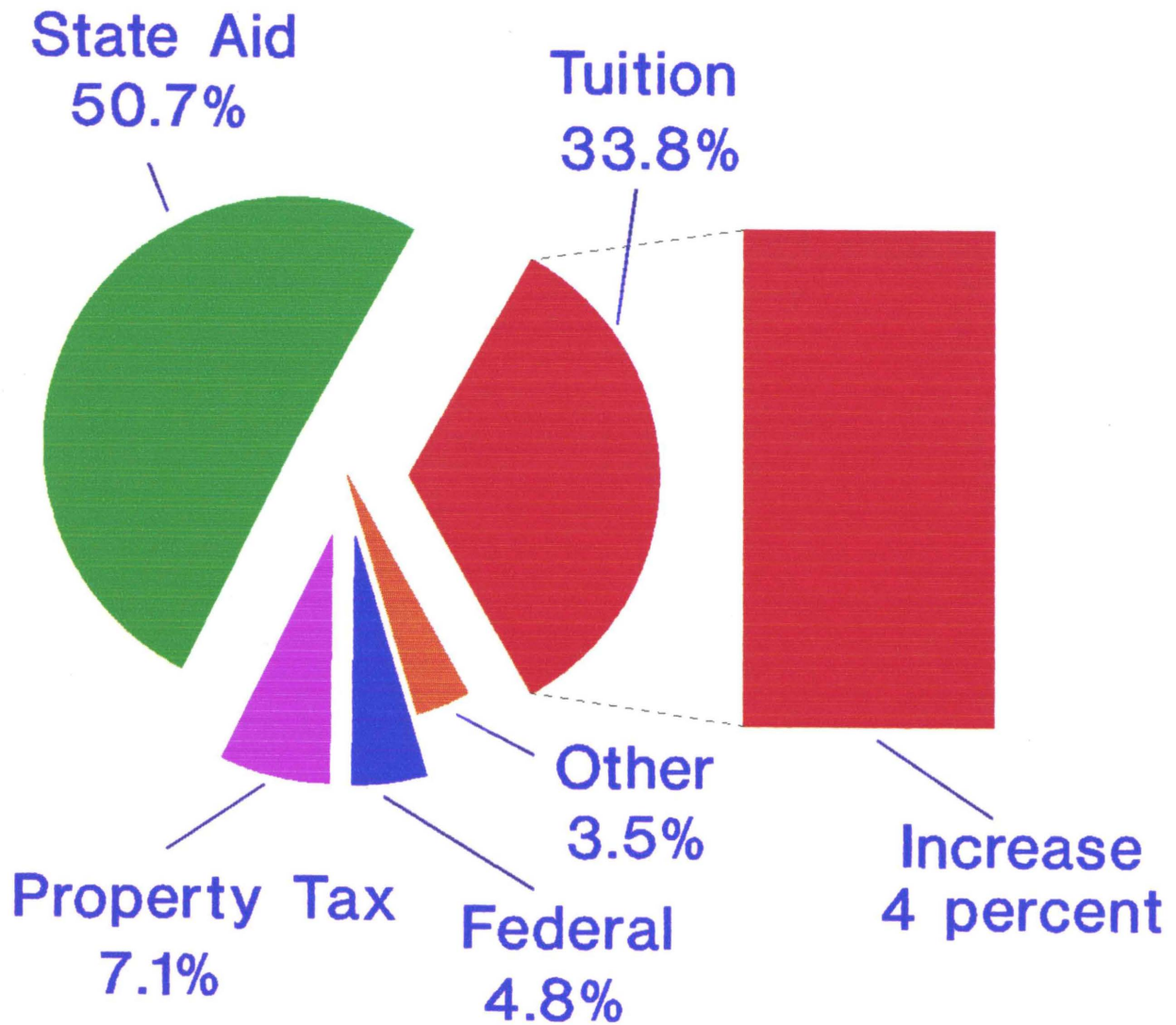
- An Iowan
- Minority Student
- Single Parent, Mother of Two

- New Directions Client
- Completed GED through Martin Luther King, Jr. Center
- Presently Enrolled in Arts and Sciences Transfer Program
- Academically At Risk
- Maintaining 2.5 Grade Point Average

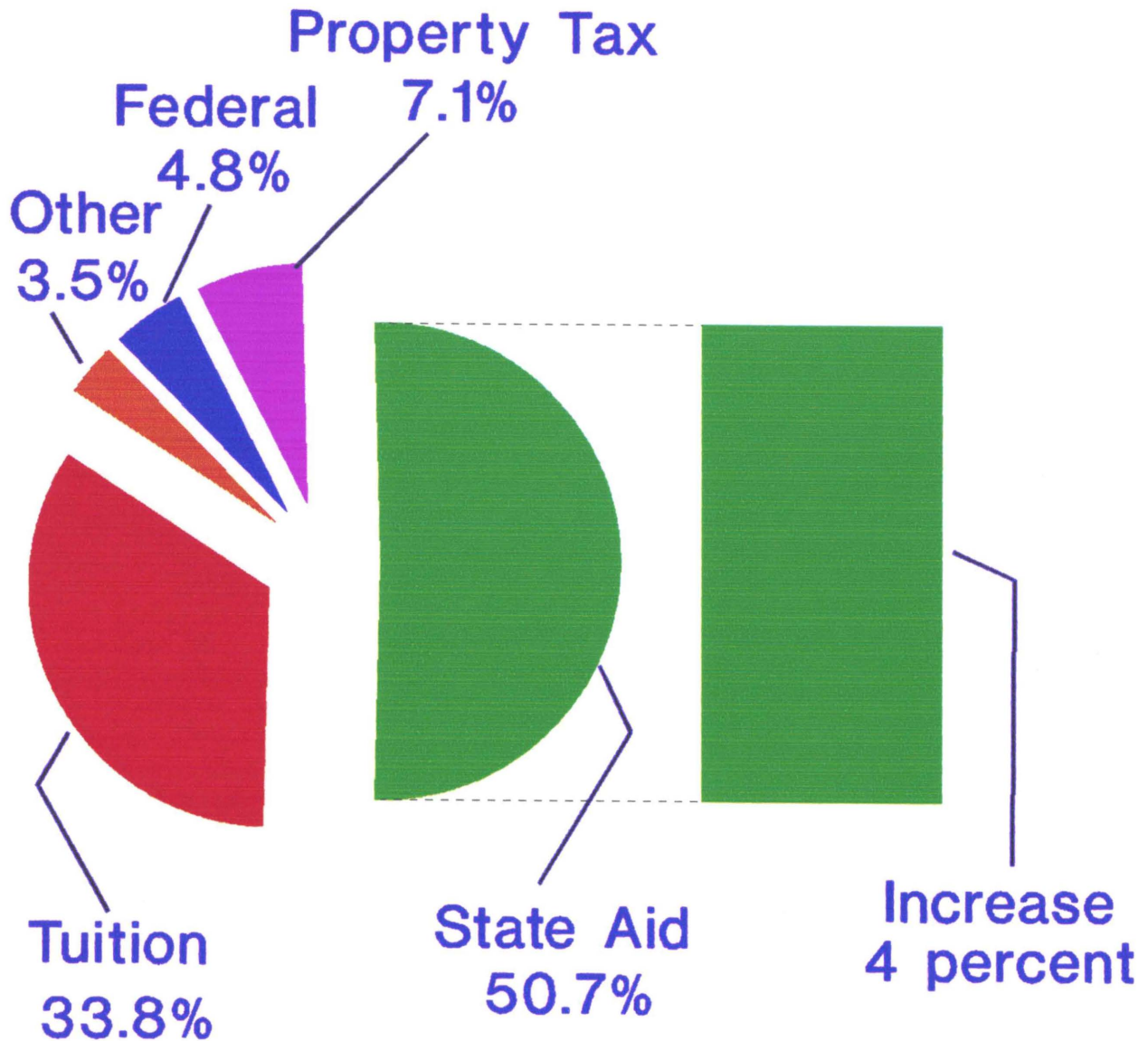
THE FUTURE

- Financial conditions have reached the point where shortcomings in the State's funding practices for Community Colleges must be repaired.
- The coping strategies which have enabled our Colleges to operate under inadequate and flawed funding patterns are now reaching their practical end. For example, the use of adjunct faculty is reaching unacceptable levels in many of our institutions.
- Looking to the future, we present the following set of assumptions relating not only to Perkins Funds but to the entire unrestricted General Fund of our Community Colleges:

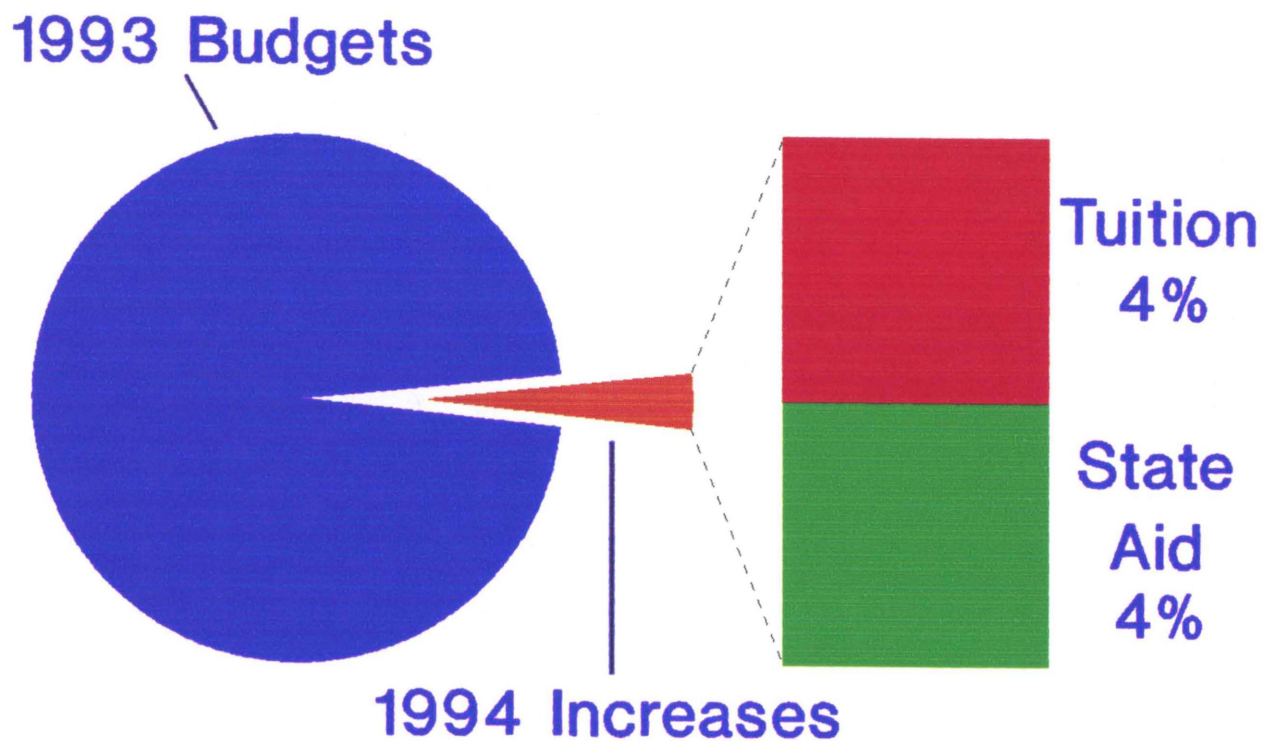
If Tuition Is Increased To Match Inflation



And, State Aid Is Increased At The Rate of Inflation,

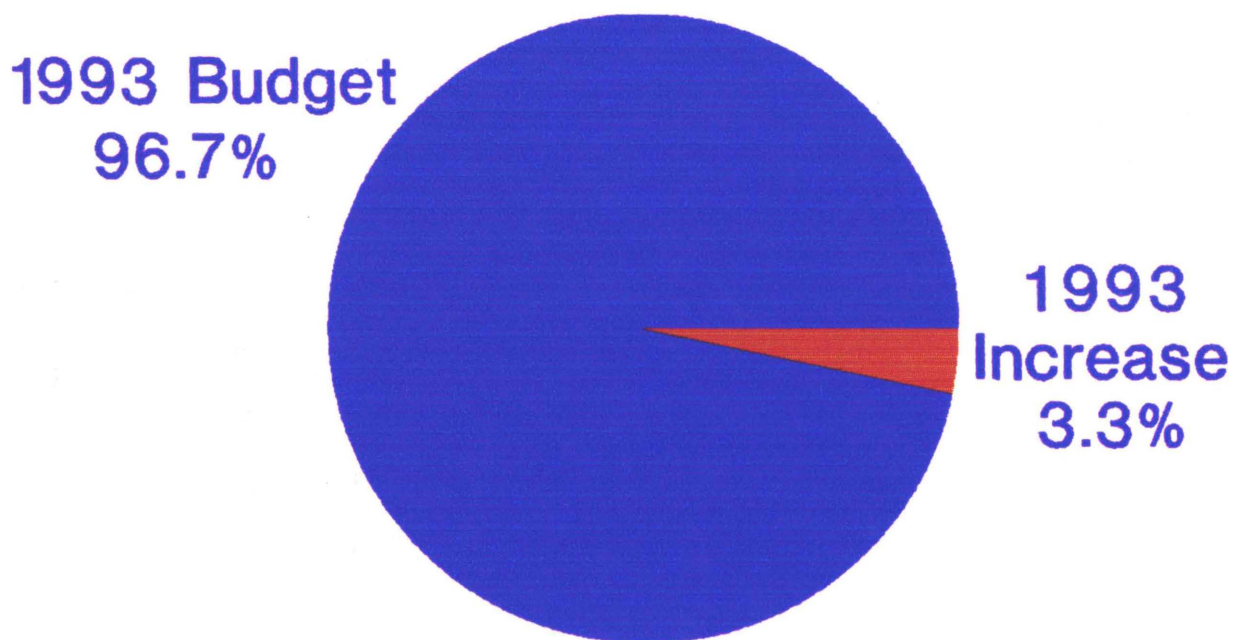


Combined, These New Revenues Are The Only Ones Likely To Be Available



Leaves the Colleges with
Minimal Dollars To Offset Inflation
and Nothing for Growth

1994 Revenue Projection



4% only yields 3.3%
when applied to the
entire budget

COMMUNITY COLLEGE FINANCING

- Critical factors affecting Community College Budgets:
- Declining property tax revenues
- Losses in Federal Perkins Funds
(\$1.1 million in FY'93 alone)
(ref. State Department of Education)
- Community College Special Needs efforts are funded through the utilization of Perkins dollars
- Another reduction in Perkins Funding will decrease the number of students presently served in a wide variety of existing programs
- Fixed costs at our Community Colleges including salaries, utilities, postage, telephones, and professional services average in excess of 88%
- Community Colleges have been asked by the State of Iowa to provide approximately \$12 million in matching funds to meet Phase II costs of the emerging telecommunications system
(ref. State Department of Education)
- Limited authority to raise property tax revenues at the local level
(ref. Iowa Code, Chapter 280A)
- State funding has not kept pace with the demands Iowans have placed on their Community Colleges

STATE GENERAL AID

Information displayed below depicts State General Aid askings vis-a-vis reimbursement received beginning with the 1988 fiscal year to the present.

Iowa's Community Colleges State General Aid Askings As Determined By The Formula vis-a-vis Actual Reimbursement Fiscal Years 1988 - 1994

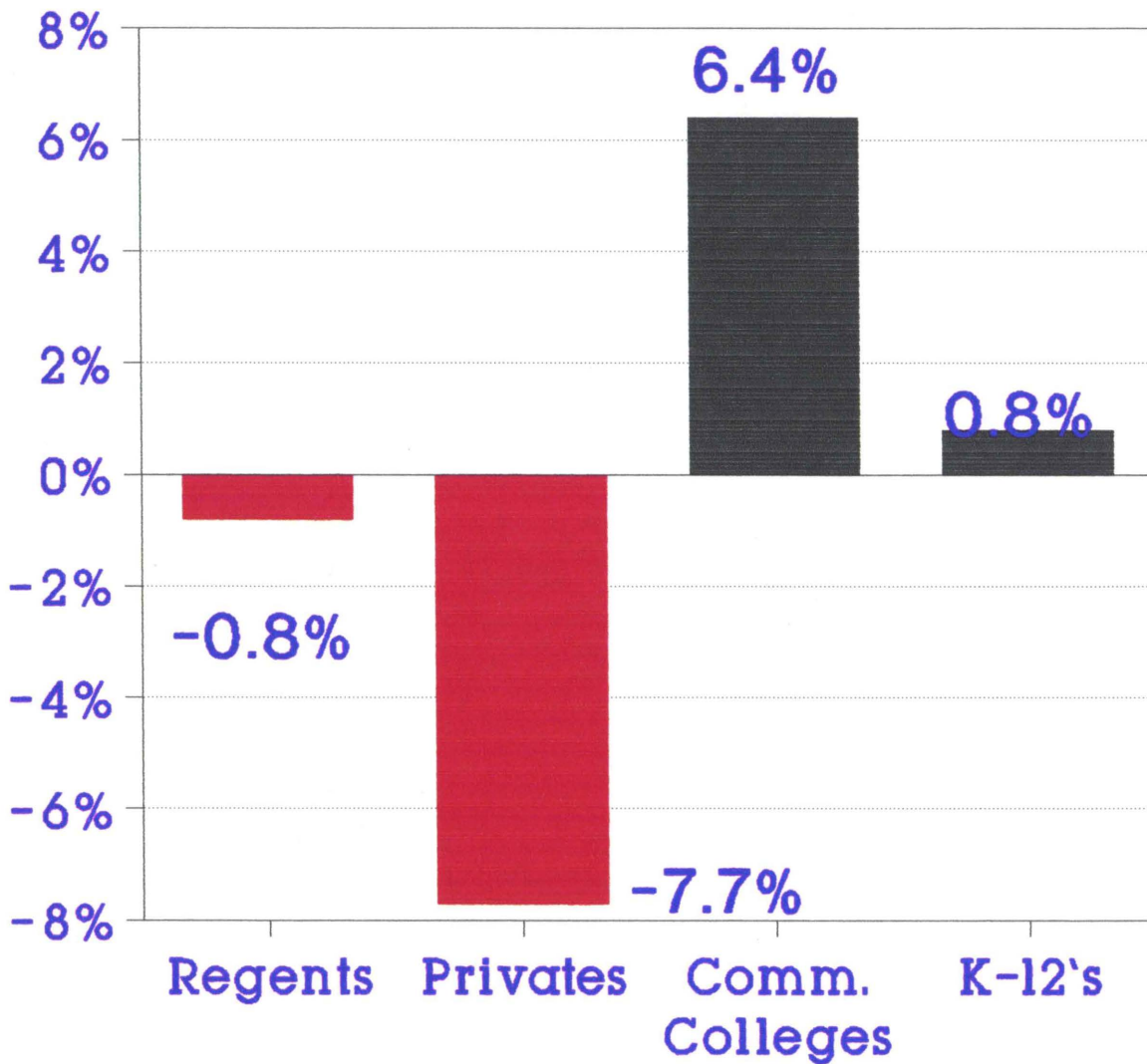
| YEAR | FULL FUNDING OF FORMULA | DOLLARS APPROVED | SHORTFALL |
|---|----------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1988 | \$75,399,923 | \$75,343,377 | (\$56,546) |
| 1989 | \$90,858,056 | \$80,351,182 | (\$10,506,874) |
| 1990 | \$87,437,484 | \$87,275,326 | (\$162,158) |
| 1991 | \$97,436,307 | \$99,007,776 | \$1,571,469 |
| 1992 | \$112,016,158 | \$103,633,230 | (\$8,382,928) |
| 1993 | \$125,597,301 | \$107,085,669 | (\$18,511,632) |
| 1994 | \$141,547,205 | \$113,570,809 | |
| | | [Adj. asking] | |
| TOTAL SHORTFALL FY 1988 - 1993 | | | (\$36,048,669) |

(Ref. Iowa Department of Education)

A significant shortfall of state aid funding for Community Colleges has occurred during a period of time when our Community Colleges continue to serve a growing number of Iowa students. The following two charts depict enrollment changes and appropriations per Iowa Students as a percent of change from FY'92 to FY'93.

Enrollment

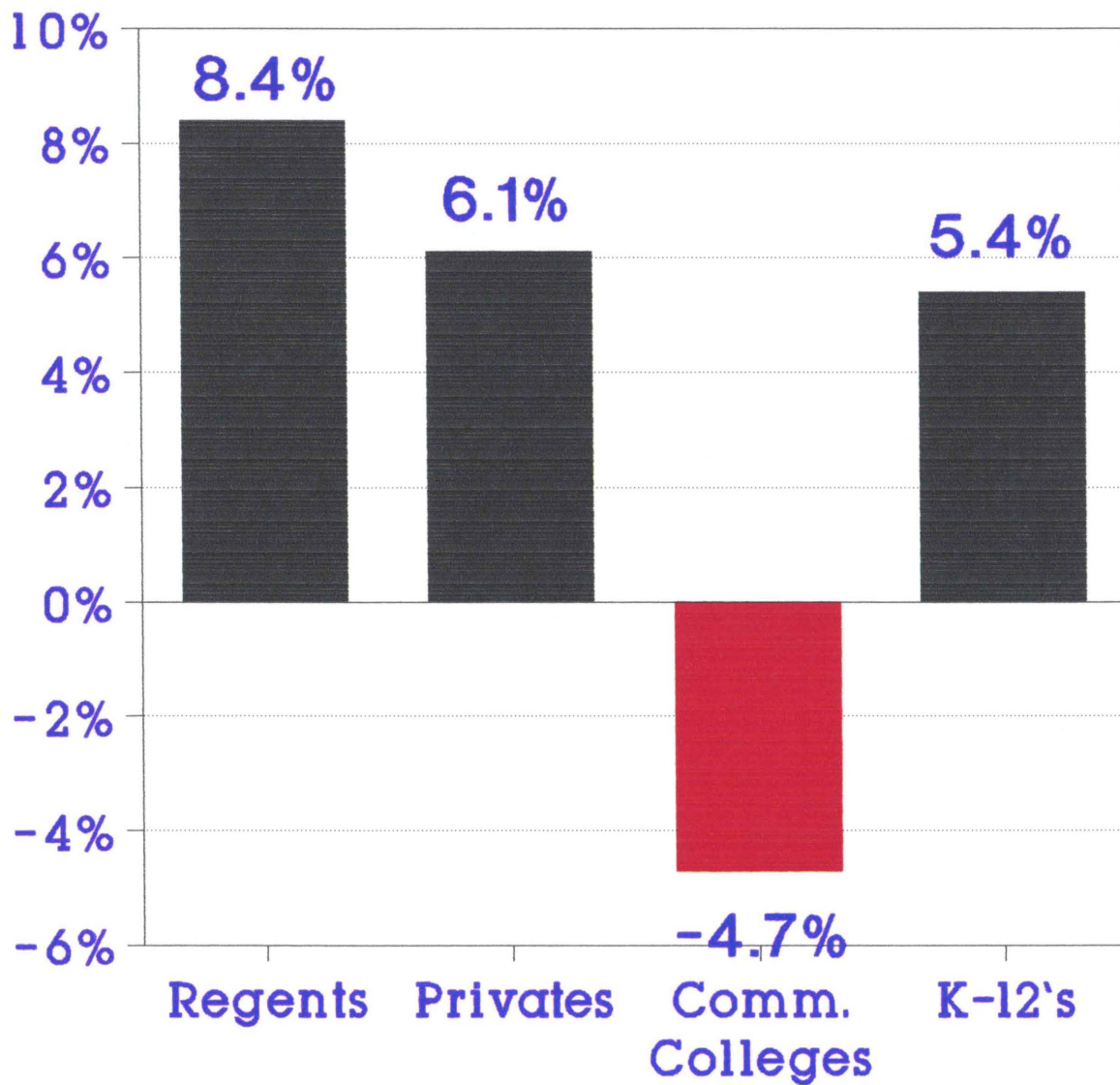
Percentage of Change 92-93



Iowa Residents Only

Source: College Aid Commission

Appropriations per Student Percentage of Change 92-93



Iowa Residents Only

Source: College Aid Commission

A SOLUTION TO THE PERKINS FUNDING DILEMMA

- The State of Iowa is currently struggling with a budget deficit in excess of \$400 million.
- Best estimates by the Office of Management and Budget indicate that the State's deficit will not be erased until mid-1995.
- As we review the problems with the state budget as well as corresponding levels of state Community College funding, we recommend that the State Board and the State Director seriously consider freezing the distribution of Perkins Funds at present levels. If Perkins Funds are further reduced, in many of our Community Colleges it will not be possible to continue services to Iowa in areas such as apprentice training and to Iowa citizens like Vu, Shirley, Robbie, Wanda and Cynthia. So today, we ask for your help, not for ourselves, but for those students yet to come who need services funded by Perkins Funds. Thank you.

Iowa Association of Community
College Trustees

Iowa Association of Community
College Presidents

February, 1993

STATE LIBRARY OF IOWA



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