

to put that in perspective as where you start from as well. Look at where you begin from. Also, look at the fact that the traditional college student has really changed. There is a great growing need for community colleges and access to those people who are already in the work force. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Nelson, then Senator Abboud.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. President, members of the body, I think I heard who you said followed me. I, too, have to object to the amendment, but I certainly could appreciate a lot of the members in the body, how they feel and in anything that is a possible raise in taxes. I particularly object to the amendment in the 1990 date. That's not very many years down the road and it simply puts us right back in the same position that we are right now. I would prefer that it be left at the 1992 date and then we do address higher education. I have one question of Senator Johnson, and, as I have said on this floor many times, I don't intend to get into an argument or so on when urban versus rural or outstate versus Omaha, but why is Metro raised to nine cents also when they are telling me it is not necessary. They had a \$3 billion raise in tax valuation and they are at .463 right now. Why would Metro need nearly a 100 percent increase and yet, Senator Johnson is so skeptical and he doesn't trust the rest of our board members that they can use sound judgment and they themselves are the ones that know. And may I tell you again from yesterday, in 19...two years ago the community colleges only taxed 61 percent of the amount that they could have taxed in the overall picture and I, for one, have the trust in my local board and they themselves are the ones that face those taxpayers. I guess I take it right back to the Omaha issue again and the buses. Why did we go to seven to ten cents on the MAT bill? We seem to have confidence in that board and...as all I can say is I truly trust my tech college board and we do have to have these tech colleges outstate. These are working people, people that want to better themselves and maybe do a little better in life and pay a few more taxes, but I wonder why that all of a sudden Metro has to have a 100 percent increase.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Johnson. Was that a question, Senator Nelson?