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LB 387

amendment. And there is a reason for couching it in that fashion. And I'd like to ask Senator Brashear a question.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Brashear, can you respond?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Yes, Mr. Speaker.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Brashear, is this my amendment with which others concur who have signed on to it?

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Yes, that is the agreement, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Just so that we can place blame, should it be necessary to do so. What this amendment would do is to reduce the university's budget by \$1 million from the Central Administration component. I had wanted to reduce their budget by \$4,200,000, and I wanted to take... I wanted to take it out of that program that relates to this Information Science and Technology, Engineering, or however they call it, whatever they're calling it. Rather than do that, this amendment would go more directly to those at the university who have not been keeping the promises that they've made relative to the hiring and retention of various group's representatives. So instead of taking the money from that engineering project, and instead of taking \$4,200,000, the amount was reduced to \$1 million. It would be taken from the Central Administration component of the university's budget. And instead of just taking it, it would be reappropriated. Since my first approach had been to take funds from that Information Science and Technology and Engineering project, \$500,000 of that money for fiscal year 1997 and 1998, then another 500,000 for fiscal year 1998 and '99, would go to the University of Nebraska campus at Kearney for the purpose of obtaining educational equipment, computing, and networking in order that that university component could increase their potential for interconnections to support the receipt of the Information Science and Technology and Engineering programs. It still is tied into that Omaha program, but not for the purpose of punishing that program, but to make its offerings available to the western part of the state which currently is not envisioned nor is a part of what they're doing under the project as it's going forward now. A copy of the amendment should be on your desks now. I don't know if it's on your gadgets, but you