

eastern part of Nebraska, maybe that is what it is and maybe that is what we ought to take it as being worth, I don't know. I hate to say that but maybe it is true. So I would just urge you not to vote for the kill motion.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch, your light is on.

SENATOR KOCH: Are we closing on the motion, Mr. Speaker?

SPEAKER MARVEL: No. No, there is nobody recognized to close, Senator Koch, at the moment. Okay, only yours is on so you can close.

SENATOR KOCH: Thank you. Senator Nichol, I am sorry that you bring in this greater Nebraska versus some other part of Nebraska. That is unusual for you. Certainly there were a couple of hundred thousand dollars that were allocated to the University last year and to the Energy Office to maintain that office. That is exactly what they are for, the University is for research purposes, and that is what that was for. But I realize there is some interest in here on a couple of other things that relate to energy and we wouldn't want to break up a little coalition, but if this is going to break up a coalition, it is not very sound anyway. And Senator Nichol, for your information I've been in the forefront trying to help Western Tech for the last several years in terms of financial problems. If you call that anti western, then I guess I have got another definition to look after. The issue here is public schools, Senator Nichol. You used to be a teacher once, vocational-agriculture as I remember, and you should have a deep interest and an abiding interest in the public schools and their future and their destiny. They've been under the seven percent and they squeeze and they squeeze and they squeeze and they are cutting out programs vertically, horizontally, and denying children certain opportunities, and if you won't educate those children very well at those levels, you might as well do away with postsecondary education as well because there aren't going to be many clients. So I don't think it is unreasonable to put 598 to death right now, and if somebody next year wants to reconsider, then let them reconsider it but I think we ought to keep our votes committed at least for one year or two years before we make a sudden departure. And as I said, I will criticize the members of the professional, the lobbyists who represent the various interests, for not bird-dogging this bill but I was informed originally tech colleges came in to be exempted on energizing costs from the seven percent lid. Is that correct, Senator Nichol?

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Nichol, do you yield?