

PRESIDENT: Senator Sieck.

SENATOR SIECK: Mr. President, members of the body, I also feel that we have to support this bill even though it's going to cost us some money. These dollars are going to be well spent. I don't know how many of you realize it, but most of the program now goes to economics, home economics. These are things that will be used by every individual that comes out of that high school that takes this program. Now in visiting with the Social Service, you will find that many of our young people do not know how to prepare a meal, how to raise a family, how to take care of their home. In this alone you could save a tremendous amount of dollars. This is education that you need to get at a younger age. I feel this is very important. Many of our large schools now have this. It is a program that is going to help make a better family life, a better America, a better Nebraska. To me this is very important. Yes, vocational education, as far as learning a vocation, is also important. We have many of that kind of endeavors in our school districts, in the school districts that I represent. For instance, in the York school districts we have a model home being built by the students of that high school. The school after...the home, after the school is over, is sold to individuals in the City of York for a home. This is on the job experience, which I think is real helpful. This will help. I just feel this program is good and it should be continued, and even advanced and give greater or sponsor greater endeavors to our young people. We do have vocational education in our tech. colleges. Many of our students are going there, but some of them cannot because of financial inability to go. I feel that this is a good program and we should advance this bill and fund it. So I do support the bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Rod Johnson.

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. President, members, I reluctantly rise to oppose LB 415. I say so being both a farmer, a representative of many rural schools, and I guess a product, somewhat, of vocational education in a sense. I do rise to oppose the bill because I think we are going to be sending out a very negative message to a lot of our schools. Let me qualify that by saying that it is clear to me that the biggest issue facing this Legislature, and you can take all of your bank issues and your property tax relief issues and