

to make certain that it is truly a regional agreement. I want to make certain that it is set up in a way that each state needs the other state. I want to make certain that it is set up in such a way that when the economy gets better again and it will and money becomes not such an issue and it will, that each state will not be able to say, well, you know, we really don't need the other state, we are just going to close off this agreement, we are going to do it ourself. That is not a truly regional agreement. The proposal that is brought to you with 204 and is laid out in your A bill in your book that ranges from \$14 million to \$18 million is not looking at, in my opinion, a truly regional agreement. Under a truly regional agreement, all of the students would have to...I would think at least, would have to go through all of the facilities and that is not really what has been envisioned. All of the students would have to go through all of the clinical facilities in both states in order to expand their knowledge, to expose them to a lot more animals and, quite frankly, to expose them to the various areas. Now if Nebraska wants a school of veterinary medicine in order to get more veterinarians back in this state, and I question whether that is necessary or not, but if that is the case, then exposing all of those students from this other state, whichever state it might be, should be a good idea. One other thing that is in the amendment I should point out to you is that it says that for a school of veterinary medicine we are going to...or for any of these regional programs, for any of these regional programs we are going to look at contiguous states or states in close proximity. Now you have been told by the lobbyists for the vet school issue that they are looking at two states and it is spelled out in here again in your A bill, Kansas State and Mississippi State. Well, I think there is a lot of correlation between Kansas State and Nebraska. You know, it is not that far down to Manhattan. We share a border all the way across the southern part of this state. I only live about less than 50 miles from Kansas. We've got a lot of friends in Kansas. Things are very similar in Kansas. The same thing could be said about Colorado. The same thing could be said about Iowa, Missouri or Minnesota, all of which have schools of veterinary medicine and close proximity, I guess I would say, you know, Oklahoma is probably not that far away, Wisconsin, perhaps, but I question, I question if we are talking about a cooperative regional program how really much we have in common with Mississippi. Do we really need veterinarians in this state