

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Warner, you are next in speaking order on the Johnson amendment. Senator Warner, yes.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I too would rise to oppose the proposal and suggest that in fact the kind of program that Chadron carries at Scottsbluff is totally consistent with what was intended back in 1978 when role and mission was established. That was to still provide a vehicle that access could be available for different types of instructional opportunities, educational opportunities without duplication in terms of competing systems, or different systems attempting to offer the same programs. Of course that is exactly what this program does. The opportunity for providing courses that could lead to a four year degree, if it was chosen by the individual to do so, is being offered there in a very efficient, economical way, far more efficient than if separate institutions were set up in order to do it, or separate institution's systems expanded forward. There has been a demonstrated need for a number of years, as a matter of fact, that this kind of slight increase in funding to accommodate the growth that has occurred would be appropriate and more efficient. I'd urge you not to adopt this reduction.

PRESIDENT: Is there further discussion on the Johnson amendment to 722? If not, Senator Johnson, you may close.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker and members of the body, I try to do my work like a conscientious legislator. I sit down and I go through the budget book that Senator Warner and the staff prepare. I get to an item under the State College Board of Trustees, item number 21, which says \$36,592. It says, provide funding for center for education in Scottsbluff. I suddenly say, wait a minute, I know that Scottsbluff has got the Nebraska Western Technical College. Why does Chadron need to have a center for education in Scottsbluff. So I simply make an inquiry of the fiscal analyst. I said, please explain. Here is the explanation. The funding, that is the \$36,000, would provide for a full-time nonteaching, doctoral-level director to supervise the cooperative education program with Nebraska Western Community College. The college believes a full-time professional director is needed to maintain the quality of the program at Scottsbluff. It says see the following response from Chadron State College regarding further