

very carefully and very closely to oppose that kind of a change. So what we'll do is we'll simply add a new cost. In fact when one looks at a tremendous number of budget items in any state budget or in the federal budget or even in local budgets, one will discover that budgets kind of are layered, that there are a whole host of different ways of addressing the same problem layered into one budget. And the reason there are a whole host of different ways of addressing the same problem layered into one budget is because the administrative branch can never get the votes to undo an older system that either had outlived its usefulness or was no longer quite as effective, quite as efficient as a new proposal. So the old system stays in place and we get a new system. I've always been a strong supporter of the Nebraska School for the Deaf primarily because it was in my legislative district, but also because in visiting the School for the Deaf I really found their care of children to be excellent. I mean, I just...I like the way the School for the Deaf operates, but I kind of became amused over time with the different techniques that we have had historically with simply dealing with deaf children, whether it be to isolate them in an individual setting like the Nebraska School for the Deaf or to mainstream them in special education programs just like we talked about this morning and we just continue to go down two paths. We don't make decisions saying, well we're going to have a separate facility, i.e., the School for the Deaf or in the alternative, we're going to mainstream our children, put them in special education programs throughout the school districts in the state. Instead we say we'll have both the School for the Deaf and special education programs at a great cost to us, at a great cost to us. So I think what's happened is the Department of Public Institutions has said for good and valuable reason, we really can do without a medical detoxification unit at the Hastings Regional Center. We probably don't need it. It's a high cost operation, so let us phase that out and we will obviously expand our social detoxification in a nearby facility in Grand Island.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: And what we have is we have a senator doing her duty to her constituency in her district asking us to, again, put in the concrete or set in the concrete the permanency so to speak of a medical detoxification unit at the Hastings Regional Center. I don't think we should be so