

and the valuation of land goes up, will there be legislation to reduce this limit that has been placed on the technical colleges?

SENATOR SMITH: Yes, in fact it should be emphasized as I stated in my opening statement that it is only a short term emergency measure, that they are preparing additional legislation that would base property tax authority on actual tax revenues instead of valuation, and in addition, would tie increases or decreases in state aid to corresponding changes in property tax, and that is supposed to be ready for the next session.

SENATOR ABOUD: One final question, Senator Smith, you stated that the Metro Technical Colleges asked to be excluded from this bill? Is there any particular reason? You said because their valuation hasn't gone down, is that the (interruption) reason.

SENATOR SMITH: They didn't feel that they were being affected by this, they weren't seeing this kind of decline in the valuation in the Metro area when we began to feel the effects of land valuation decline in the rural areas. As you know, the economy has not really affected to the degree in Omaha, particularly Omaha, that it has the other parts of the State of Nebraska and particularly, you know, in the last year, and they still maintain that stance, they don't need that additional revenue.

SENATOR ABOUD: Thank you, Senator Smith. Members of the body, I am somewhat skeptical about this piece of legislation. It doesn't have a direct impact on my legislative district so I probably will withhold opposing the bill adamantly, at least on General File here, but I will closely watch it. I think any time you have the technical college coming in here and changing the amount of taxes that can be levied I think it has to be watched by the entire body. Probably the most important reason why it has to be watched is that we have a very peculiar problem here in the State of Nebraska in that we don't have any coordination in higher education. We have the university system, we have the state colleges, and then we have these tech colleges, and there just hasn't been the coordination that is desired I believe by members in this body. There is no coordination in dealing with higher education and I see a real danger here when any time we expand the amount of