

bill when you compare the cost of property taxes for residents in Douglas County. It is not a big bill when you compare it to what they have to pay for the schools or the cities, but it is a bill that is added into the overall cost of property taxes.

PRESIDENT: The Chair would advise there is five minutes left for total debate. Go ahead, Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Thank you. It is not a big bill but it adds up in the overall property tax bill and since this Legislature has not been willing to deal with the high cost of property taxes in the urban areas, then I feel that we have to look at ways to reduce the property tax cost to the residents in my particular district. Now, we had a bill before us back in 1984, it was...the principal sponsor was Senator Newell. Now, Senator Newell had a rather novel approach. He said that we should take over the cost of technical community colleges. And the discussion in taking over technical community colleges was that at this time we just don't have the proper coordination. We don't have the type of emphasis on what the technical community colleges should be doing. We have a University system that handles higher education, dealing with postsecondary education. We have an educational system at the state colleges that deals with the residents that primarily live in outstate Nebraska and then we have the technical community colleges which deal with the vocational education around this state. Now, my belief is when I first entered this Legislature that there was a coordination among these different bodies, that somehow they took care of the different concerns of the constituents of the State of Nebraska and the residents in the State of Nebraska. But to my shock and to my horror, I find that there is a lack of coordination in this state. There is very little discussion between the different groups of the University and the state colleges. There is little discussion between the tech colleges and the universities and state colleges and I am not quite sure why it takes place or why there is a lack of discussion and communication between these different groups but it does exist. I should say it doesn't exist. Now, what my hope is is that some day we will have a body that will take a look at the entire higher educational spectrum in the State of Nebraska, that they will be able to say, well, this is what is best for the residents in the state, that we shouldn't be offering these particular classes at the technical colleges, that they