

Our own colleges, through our efforts, Senator Smith and I last year, are implementing a two-year program in LPN nursing and now they are able to go on to...they are able to go on to Bryan Memorial Hospital, three hospitals in Omaha to get their RN degrees, and if you are going to cut off this funding and their ability to expand, you have taken away somewhat the medical care right out of central Nebraska. I also...in any one of these budgets, I think that you will find whether it is business, whether it is the meds, or whether it is doctor bills, all of them increased or doubled in ten-years time. I also look at this in the news media, as I was going home the other afternoon last week, I heard that this bill would raise taxes 12 percent or it would raise taxes up to 12 mills, an additional 12 mills, may I say. That would have been a hundred and, what, forty percent. That is what news media can do to you. That is the same thing as we hear on the Governor's salary is all we hear is that the Governor's salary is going up to 80,000. I think we responsible people have to know and we do know better than that. Also, I want to tell you if you expect new jobs and new business, it is your community colleges that are going to retrain for that industry that is coming. Also, there is a question whether or not we trust the boards. May I tell you that from '83 to '84...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR NELSON: ...the community colleges only taxed up to 61 percent of their budget. So take that in consideration, and in my own college, may I tell you that they cut their expenditures last year 400,000. These colleges did not raise teachers salaries last year. They are facing a Court of Industrial Relations board, and if that is the case in my own college, they will be \$1 million down out of a \$6.7 million budget, and that is a tremendous cut. I am not for raising taxes any more than anyone else, but it seems to me in this case, and then may I remind you again, we just voted on LB 1012 last week, which gave the same principle and the same thing in Omaha, a raise in property tax in case it was needed, and no one says that this is going to raise that much. My own college, their proposed budget was down...they cut it 400,000 last year. This year even the proposed is 602,000 so we are only 202,000 over a year ago.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Remmers.