

the retraining. It would cost them an awful lot more to get it, and in many, many cases, it is going to mean that they are not going to get that additional training. I hope that you will vote against this amendment and then move to advance the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hoagland. The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Debate has ceased. Senator Peterson, would you like to close on your motion please?

SENATOR PETERSON: I will yield the first part of my closing to Senator Abboud.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Okay, Senator Abboud, please.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, I don't think anyone on this floor has said that the tech colleges aren't doing a great job in educating the students in the State of Nebraska, and I don't believe that the amendment that Senator Peterson is offering in any way harms the tech colleges, but I think the amendment was created out of a sense of frustration with local governmental bodies, the sense of frustration that they are not doing enough to reduce property taxes, and this bill will in fact, increase their property taxes or allow them to increase their property taxes. I recall last week we had a bill that was very similar in the sense that we allowed the voters to vote on whether they chose to have a tax increase, LB 890, Senator Sieck's bill, that provided if there would be an increase or allowing for the local option sales tax that it went before a vote of the people as we presently have, but in addition, it allowed for language so there is precedent allowing for major tax increases to have a vote of the people to decide whether they choose to have an increase, and we are talking about millions of dollars here, additional millions of dollars which will go to tech colleges if we pass this piece of legislation or the allowing them to raise millions of dollars through the increase in the tax levy. I would yield the remainder of the closing to Senator Peterson.