

that we've got, that we're one of the best in, to public radio. Do you know why? Because those people who are afraid to share the cost, afraid of what might happen, afraid that since we're helping pay for theirs they don't want to pay for ours, I'll remind Senator Abboud and others that the programs that you're shown that are produced by NPR, some of my federal tax dollars help produce those programs. So I am helping you. It seems to me that that's being rather shortsighted and I don't want to get into a rural-urban thing, but if you have to, then I'll roll up my sleeves and get in there with you. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Pappas, please.

SENATOR PAPPAS: Question.

SPEAKER NICHOL: 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. We need 25. Please vote on ceasing debate if you care to. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 30 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Rod Johnson, would you like to close, please?

SENATOR R. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members, I would defer my closing to my distinguished colleague, Senator Scofield.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Scofield, please.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. This is a bill whose time has come and I think there are a number of reasons for that, one being, I think we finally figured out a way to get around the concerns that people have had as far as funding mechanisms, as far as local origination broadcasts, some of those concerns that have been raised. Those have, as you know, with the current amendments been taken care of, there is no impact on the state's budget for this. It is an opportunity for the people of Nebraska to speak and say, I want this and I will support it through private funds. That will be an absolutely essential step if this is ever to succeed. What we're really talking about here today is the future of rural Nebraska. The language is