

it is not convenient or maybe not possible for them to attend the university or the schools in Omaha. I do believe that these schools are serving the public. As I say, I don't think we are being conservative by cutting those costs. Yes, if it requires an increase in the taxes, I would support it because, again as I say, cutting spending does not necessarily...is not necessarily being conservative, in fact that can be very painful down the road. I think we've cut postsecondary education as far as we can, or at least as far as we should, or maybe even beyond what we should. I think we've cut it beyond what we should. I would urge you to support Senator Vickers' amendment.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you. Senator Hoagland, please.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: (Response inaudible.)

SENATOR CARSTEN: Question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I do not see five hands, now I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, those opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Debate has ceased. Senator Vickers, would you like to close on your amendment, please.

SENATOR VICKERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Mr. President, members, I want to remind you once again, so that there is no misunderstanding, this amendment would add \$245,000 to the budget. It would add that \$245,000 to the University of Nebraska's Lincoln campus...or...yes, Lincoln campuses budget, and then reallocate that through the \$1 million that is already allocated to the school at Curtis, so that there will be \$1,245,000 in intent language to continue the operations of the school at Curtis, Nebraska. Now I happen to think that, as Senator Remmers pointed out, that higher education, we ought to start looking at education dollars as an asset rather than as a liability. I happen to think that the school at Curtis is an asset to the entire State of Nebraska. Certainly I've got some real personal feelings since Curtis is very close to where I live. But the fact of the matter is the vast majority of those students that go to Curtis come from across the State of Nebraska. As I