

at a point today where we can send a message to the people of the state that well, we are frightened of the future, we are frustrated, we don't believe in what we've built, that we don't have enough faith in the future of Nebraska to continue to invest in it. That kind of message, I think, will be translated to the younger members of our population is, Nebraska isn't a place to stay, and maybe you ought to look for some place else. I think the other message we can send is that the taxpayers are no longer willing to invest in the future and to support what has been left for us by our ancestors. I speak as someone who is a sixth generation western Nebraskan. I don't think that is what my ancestors would ask that I do. I think that my ancestors, and yours on the other hand, would ask that we send a message to the people of Nebraska of confidence and a message that Nebraska intends to compete in this very fast-changing, challenging, modern era. I think we need to send a message of confidence in our system of higher education, confidence in our ability to continue to provide quality health care not only for our current members of the state, as well as our aging population, but I don't think there is a single person in here who also doesn't hope some day to be a member of that aging population. The alternative isn't very pleasant to contemplate. And I think it is very important that we continue to invest in the kinds of things that our state and those who went before us have contributed.

SPEAKER NICHOL PRESIDING

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: I think we need to send a message to local subdivisions to join us in this challenge. But I would urge you to stick with the committee recommendations on this. And just keep in mind, we have all drunk from wells we didn't drill, we've all sat under the shade of trees we didn't plant. Every one of us in here has gone to a school or driven on a road that our personal tax dollars didn't pay a penny toward. And I think for us to fail to continue to fund those kinds of things that this state has provided for us is not in the best interests of the state, and in fact it is to destroy that legacy that our ancestors have left us. And I would urge you to join us in sustaining...or I should say overriding the vetoes and funding those items that the committee has recommended to you. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Goll, did you wish...Senator Wesely, on