

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thirty seconds.

SENATOR SCHMIT: But if we don't have the backbone to raise the revenue that is necessary, then I think we should all suffer and suffer alike. The minute you get someone's toe out of the fire, then the pressure becomes less and less. I think we need to all suffer or we all prosper, but I am damned tired of a small group taking the cuts who don't have the ability, don't have the resources, don't have the lobbyists to get the job done taking those cuts. I'm saying it in blunt language because I think sometimes that's all the hell you understand.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Nelson, please. Then Senator Goodrich.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, I guess you caught me by surprise a minute. My light was on to address the, to me, the inequity given to our state colleges simply because of the increased enrollment. My own college in my area out there, Kearney State, has received a 9 percent increase in enrollment in 1984 and from 1976 to present they have had an increase from 5,777 to 8,725, and likewise, the University of Nebraska has not seen that increase. I think with a net increase of 998, I think that needs to be considered. It puts me, I guess, how do you go? Which way do you go? I'm very honest. I support higher education, but I am like Loran Schmit, we have to set our priorities here and if not, I'm going to try to be covering economic development. No way, it seems to me like that's our state right now, new jobs and new business and I know education is as important to economic development as anything that we can have. Any meeting you go to the first priority is education, but I'm having great difficulty in separating the cut for the University and the cuts for the state college, particularly when I see a 9 percent increase, we are simply cutting out tuition. But I am undecided how I am going at this point and my very question to some of the college boards out here this morning, exactly can you cut any more? Is there travel, is there associate professors, many areas? As a farmer, again, I'll say that I'll take a 10 percent cut and come out smelling like a rose. I know I have more opportunities to switch and to cut than they do in locked in salaries and so on, but again, I just want this consideration given for a college with that much of an