

you might say, to solve that financial crisis, and I am not sure we have looked at the long range solution to the problem and identifying the point source of what that problem may be. In my mind, the point source of that problem that we are now facing in this state happens to be the crisis in agriculture. We have heard it time and time and time again on this floor, but I guess I want to drill it in your head one more time. And, quite frankly, I have to tell you that if we do not take steps in this body to address the problem facing agriculture, as a State Legislature, as farm groups, as farmers and ranchers, and as citizens of this state, we are going to be back here in special sessions from now until this crisis is resolved. And so I would say to you that, quite frankly, we have to find the problem to the solution and that is dealing with the agricultural problem. The University of Nebraska is an institution that can help us work out way out of the problem. To cut the basic programs that we are counting on in this particular area I think would seriously impair the ability for us to use those resources at that campus to help us working our way out of the problem. It is just not the University of Nebraska. It is the Department of Economic Development. It is the agriculture department. It is a variety of other departments as well. They are going to have to help us with this thing. But, quite frankly, the University of Nebraska has proposed a number of cuts, especially in the areas of agriculture, that bother me. I guess the amendment that Senator Lamb posed to you yesterday was one of trying to put basic intent into this LB 1 to ensure that when the Board of Regents does receive their percentage of cut, whatever that may be, that they do not look to agriculture to carry the brunt or the burden of that cut. I am not saying that agriculture should be any more immune to the cuts than any other program or any other area in this state. But it is clear to me that you cannot cut your nose off to spite your face and, quite frankly, we are in a situation if you cut these programs away, how are we supposed to work our way through the problems? Yesterday on this very floor Senator Morehead gave what I think was one of the best speeches I have ever heard Senator Morehead give on the basic role and mission of the University of Nebraska. I went to a breakfast this morning. I listened to Senator Warner talk to the Lincoln Chamber of Commerce about the basic reducing the scope of government and I think in both instances they have brought to our attention basic problems that are facing us as a legislative decision-making body.