

Quite frankly, what Senator Warner told us this morning was that you cannot transfer the cost of programs from one agency to another. If we close the school at Curtis, for an example, there is a program in the school of Curtis known as a pre-vet program, as I understand, which is one of a kind, and probably, and I have had University officials admit to me, that quite possible would be transferred back up here to Lincoln and continued here in the University of Nebraska, probably at the East Campus. So you are not eliminating the cost in that particular case. All you are doing is taking the availability of that program in western Nebraska or in outstate Nebraska away from the people who may want to choose a smaller campus to go to closer to home. And I think that Senator Warner presented that particular argument to us very ably. And I think that that is one of the reasons why I am most concerned with some of these cuts. I talked to Senator Scofield many times about the concerns I have that we may see withdrawing of state government out of the rural areas, out of our areas in the country, those field offices. Those services that are out there in the rural areas of our state may well be withdrawn and those are also reasons why I am greatly concerned that if we do not put this intent language in LB 1 that some of the programs that we now have in place will be lost. But I also recognize that there is a great deal of problem in the agricultural economy and as I said in my beginning or my opening, until we identify the point source, until we begin to work as a collective body to solve the problem, we are never going to basically work our way out of this financial crisis because agriculture, no matter how much you want to talk about bringing in high tech industry, bringing in other service industries, agriculture still is going to play the important role in this state from now until doomsday, quite possibly, and you just can't ignore it and you can't set a different course for the state in a short time. So we can't give up on it. I have been circulating a letter that I am sending to some farm groups, hopefully, to get them to generate some interest in what we are doing here during this special session, trying to get them to support us in this particular endeavor, trying to get some momentum back in agriculture. As I talked with Senator Schmit this morning, we are going to have to do more as a state, as a State Legislature, as commodity groups, to do more for ourselves because we certainly can't rely upon federal government and upon foreign export markets to work our way out of this problem. So we have to go on the initiative. We have to go