

support of agriculture.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit. Okay, Senator Vickers. Senator Nichol is next and then Senator Scofield. Well, Senator Vickers is on the floor right now, Senator.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. President and members, just so you understand the context of my remarks, my home is less than 20 miles from Curtis, so I guess you know that I understand the value of the school at Curtis. I am not a graduate of the school that is there now but I did attend that school back when it was a high school operated by the University of Nebraska. Now, I voted...I signed this amendment yesterday, I voted with Senator Lamb, what I am telling you now is I don't really care a whole lot which way you vote because I think the issue is and has been decided as far as this body is concerned that, no, we are not going to close that school this year. But, and Senator Lamb made the point that agriculture has taken a little back seat perhaps, I don't know why we should be so upset about that. I don't know why we should be so surprised about it. Agriculture has taken a back seat on the national scope of things. We are the ones that are paying for the lowering of inflation because we don't have an inflation rate in agriculture, we have got a deflation rate in agriculture, yet we are told we are poor managers because we can't seem to survive. I would challenge any businessman any place in this state or any other state that if they went to their business tomorrow morning and all of their assets were cut in half and yet their costs stayed up the same, I would like for them to come back and tell us how wonderful a managers they were that they could survive under that sort of a situation. That is the problem. And this situation that we are dealing with is not going to go away, I don't care whether you vote for this reconsideration or not. We are going to be right back here next session. We are going to be cutting the budget even further because we don't have enough income out there in the country. Curtis, and I have told my people out there that I told you were neighbors of mine, is going to be on the cut list again and again and again until we have enough money to provide enough funds and I think everybody in here knows it. And until this Legislature, until this Legislature and the Congress does all we can do to turn the economy around, we are going to continue to deal with this type of situation. Now, let me talk to you as the Chairman of the Education Committee, very briefly. We may have more