

program, I will be the first one to introduce this. I know the fact that money has been expended on this, and I think there is 33 or 36 students maybe involved at this time, but the other side of the coin is, I visited with the Chairman of the Board of Regents and the fact that we are starting a new half a million dollar program which could be six or \$700,000 not too far down the line and it leaves a very poor impression. We're taking this away from the University. We're telling them where they have to give up and when it come to the College of Pharmacy or the...Lincoln has a very, very fine College of Nursing in Lincoln. And I know that we need to think of the people in the western part of Nebraska and it's not the point that they don't need it or the point that they don't deserve it and so on, but it's the fact that we're starting a precedence of starting another program which is the reason that our budget is in somewhat the problem we have now. We started too many programs in the seventies and the early eighties. For that reason, and it doesn't mean that I don't think as much of them and that they don't need it as bad as anyplace else, but I don't think this is the time to be starting another new program.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Schmit, please, then Senator McFarland.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, I'd like to ask Senator Scofield a question. Senator Scofield, if we do return that or sustain that 100,000 for the School of Nursing at Scottsbluff, is the University mandated to carry out the program?

SENATOR SCOFIELD: At Scottsbluff?

SENATOR SCHMIT: At Scottsbluff.

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Yes. As a matter of fact, it's pretty well underway and the hiring is started and so on. And in fact...

SENATOR SCHMIT: But that was before the million plus cut, was it not?

SENATOR SCOFIELD: That's correct.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Suppose that they determine that there are other programs more meritorious, can they, notwithstanding the action of the Legislature, terminate the program at Scottsbluff?

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Well, I think the intent of the Legislature is pretty clear here in the language. (Inaudible)