

the Scottsbluff nursing program. I did not vote to take it out of the budget. I think that on the surface I would suggest to Senator Scofield that we consider trying to put that money back in. I would not like to see the nursing program in Lincoln dismantled, not just because it happens to be in an area that I represent, but because it serves a lot of folks, just as the Scottsbluff program serves those individuals. So I suggest to Senator Scofield that she drop this idea of trying to dismantle what is obviously a good program, a necessary program, and work toward the positive area of trying to reinstate the Scottsbluff nursing program. Thank you.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you. Senator Peterson, please.

SENATOR PETERSON: Mr. Chairman and colleagues, I rise to support Senator Scofield in her efforts to do what she is doing. I thought two years ago when this was brought before the Board of Regents they made a big, big mistake in keeping the School of Nursing open at Lincoln Campus. Now, if it would have been the only School of Nursing in the State of Nebraska, then I would be opposite, fighting to keep it, but I am not against Lincoln, or anyplace, but I think we have got too much duplication. We have got so many Schools of Nursing now that I think the School of Nursing at the University of Nebraska should be cut and eliminated. If we don't do some of these things, I don't know where we are going to get the money to fund all these things that we are looking at. I dread coming down in January when our next session because things are going to be worse. Now there are some on this floor seem to think the alternative is just to raise taxes. I heard a senator before I come down on TV, the night before, saying we have cut everything to the bone, the only thing we have got to do is to raise taxes. Now, I disagree wholeheartedly and my constituents do, too. I think we have got to cut this budget and these are areas where we can do it, and I think this is a viable situation that we need to look at and do. Now some on the floor, if they had to run their own business or budget what we are looking at in our budget restraints, sure as heck would be finding ways to cut that budget if it was on their back and they had to come out of their pocket. But as it is, so many seem to think that, John Q. Public, we can just go back to him and raise taxes and continue going on. But if it was coming out of their own pocket, and they had to make the cuts, they would find ways, because if they didn't, they would be just like that businessman or farmer out there that is cutting and making his own restraints and doing away with some of the things, and making his budget work, and then in a lot of respects, it even