

thin in the schools. That doesn't mean that they couldn't be developed but at this time I am in sincere sympathy with the people in western Nebraska. That is not the point. In fact, I am getting calls just like I know the rest of you, and one lady, I think she had a very good point, and I may consider it, but I will probably get my nose chopped off before I even open up this breath of air. Her point was take the million out of Games and Parks Commission. They have...and I think that Senator Vickers had a concern last year. There is over \$10 million that is just kind of salted away on interest and so on. So I don't think maybe this is the only area and I don't think we are done today just talking budget, but I think we have to look and address at the whole figures, and I commend Senator Schmit with this list that he has put together. I think that we really need to consider that.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you. Senator McFarland, please.

SENATOR MCFARLAND: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would agree with what has been said by Senator Wesely and Senator Harris. In fact, I supported the Scottsbluff nursing program and voted for it last spring in the session we had, and I think that both nursing programs, the one in Scottsbluff and the one in Lincoln, should be preserved and I will vote in favor of both of them to retain them when we get to that vote later on. But I think it is totally inappropriate at this time to consider this amendment to phase out the nursing program at Lincoln. Furthermore, and in addition to the things that Senator Wesely and Senator Harris so tactfully stated, I believe the amendment is totally inappropriate and technically incorrect. I do not believe that we can, as a Legislature, prescribe to the Board of Regents what their intent shall be. When I heard the amendment read by the Clerk, I believe the language was that the intent of the Regents is to phase out the nursing program in Lincoln. While we, as a Legislature, may create a record to determine what the intent of the Legislature is with respect to legislation, I do not think that it is appropriate or correct that we can dictate to the Board of Regents what their intent shall be, and I think previous court cases, in fact, say that the Board of Regents has the discretion to utilize the funds that are given to the University in the manner that they so see as right. So for not only the reasons expressed previously by the other senators but also for the reason that the amendment as it is drafted is really incorrect and technically flawed, I would oppose the amendment proposed by Senator Scofield. Thank you.