

people of the State of Nebraska. Senator Chambers, contrary to what you think, there are those of us on the floor who do listen to what is being said. There are those of us who, if we look away, are not looking away because we are guilty, because also contrary to what you may think, I have had absolutely no lobbying done to not support this amendment or the reinstatement of this amount of money back into that program. I just finally had to stand and say that and make it clear to the body and to the rest of the world, if you want to call it that. We have turned this thing into nothing but politics because of the efforts on the people who keep talking about it being politics. For me, it's not a political thing as far as who am I doing this for? President-elect...or Governor-elect, rather, Orr, or the present Governor, or it is on behalf of the people of the State of Nebraska and Nebraska itself? That's who I represent and I think that that's who we all really represent when it comes down to it. I have a very strong wish to support this, but I have a strong wish to support by a green light every attempt that is made to put back the money that is being removed. We are down here because the truth is there is a deficit in the revenues in the State of Nebraska. You know that as well as I do and there is a limit to what we can ask people to do. I know there are needs out there. We all know that. But we also know that those that are providing for those needs for others, including themselves, have reached a point, and in my district if you would want to come out and see and talk to them, you would find there are many who are having a hard time making it. So we all have to be in this together rather than fighting against each other. And so I still stand on saying, much as I would like to support this, I cannot support it. It is needed. There are many needs out there. And, yes, as Senator Higgins just said, I am a Republican. That has nothing to do with it, Ernie, nothing to do with it. I didn't want to come here any more than you did and I resented it tremendously. Thank you.

SENATOR CARSTEN: Thank you. Senator Haberman, please.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, I would like to tell this body of a telephone call I received yesterday. It was from a young lady and she said, they are trying to take our school of nursing away from us and she said, we can't have that. And I asked her why. She said, because I can't drive 50 miles to get my degree in nursing. So I said to her, do you know that to get that degree in nursing from Scottsbluff, Nebraska, you'd have to drive 300 miles? And she said, no, I didn't know that. And I said, well, why don't you stop and