

there any follow-up? Well there really was nothing to follow-up. There was...a message went out to all, one of the participants from Omaha, the very unfortunate had passed away. There really wasn't anything for them to do. I think the programs were good, the best that the Research Department could put together and the input that some of the students received. I guess that basically this is one program that I...what do your public taxpayers say to you? Can't you folks ever look at your own budget? Can't you folks ever cut programs? Look at what you're doing yourself. Might I add, say in the Legislative Research Department one of the comments were, we don't ask Social Services to do tractor testing and I think we put something on the burden of the Research Department that they themselves were not very happy about taking and...but they did the very best. These kids were chosen by supposedly disadvantaged and they didn't like that label put on them. We are picked out for each school as the bad ones and to put them in a different classification. That was not good. We are reaching such a minority, small group of children in the state for the amount of dollars spent. They sent...they chartered a bus, they sent it clear out to western Nebraska to pick up the kids. What do you know? The bus came back empty. I don't think we taxpayers or we senators are responsible when we continue to support a program that is very questionable. If you recall in Grand Island, they had the water conference, tremendous, tremendous program. They had to turn down kids from...by the thousands literally. Four thousand could participate. This year there are kids coming in as far as from Mexico that will be brought in. Corporate dollars are bringing them in and the cost of that program was 22,000 with some in kind benefits. We have the Nebraska Council of Youth, 31,500 kids for year round, the same thing by the university. We have the Hugh O'Brien program in schools. We have many. It's not the fact that the programs are not available for these students. It's just simply that it's a program that has not been effective. I think, frankly, it may be that maybe the Legislature gets more publicity out of it for doing it than actually the good that the kids get. I made some calls. How many of you made calls back to your district to the students to see what their response was or what they liked? My calls, the students were positive. I have nothing wrong with that and that the material furnished, the Research Department was good. It was a lot of fun, I'd like to participate again. Who wouldn't, to be brought down here and put up. They were put up out to the Nebraska Center and a good week's vacation and each and every