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and equipment have assisted Nebraskans countless times over the years. As their motto goes, they always stand ready, and now it is our opportunity to help the guard. Our Nebraska Guard is not as strong as it once was. Their numbers have declined. The force's structure is reduced. The reduction has already caused armories in Auburn, Holdrege, and Alliance to be closed, and I fear that there may be some more in the horizon. This, in turn, has restricted the federal money to train and equip these men and women. I would hate to see a continued reduction in the \$62 million the National Guard members spend in this state each year. We can help reverse this trend by advancing 243. There are \$134,000 that are paid in wages just in my district and that is out of 42 men. And I might add that any of the monies that are directed towards this will come back to us. The only colleges or universities that the guard members can attend are the ones in this state. If they go to a state school, they get the tuition for what the amount of the tuition is, and if they go to a private school, they still are given the amount of money that the state school would be; if the tuition is higher, they make that up in private schools, the guardsmen do. In 1992, we were at 75 percent reimbursement, and I...we all know what happened in 1992. There was a crunch for money. We didn't have the funds available, so it was dropped to 50 percent, and we have witnessed a decline in the enrollment of these troops over the last several years. It just kept going down. Again, I would like to reiterate that the money never leaves...never leaves the state. It is always...always here. It goes to the school, goes to the community. I think that this is something we really need to take a good hard look at and try to help these young men and women and help ourselves. The enlistments are guaranteed. They have to have a six-year enlistment, and if they are in the middle of that enlistment when they go to school, they have to serve another two-years enlistment after they graduate from college. With that, I think the figures and the records stand for themselves and I'd like to...I'd also like to say that there are several states in the United States where we have witnessed, after the 100 percent reimbursement has taken effect, what their enlistments have grown to. Iowa, Colorado, and Missouri are looking at the 100 percent reimbursement right now. In Missouri, they thought that they better do something because Oklahoma and Kansas were coming in and recruiting over into their own states. So, hopefully, we can reverse that and