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LB 587

the one they made in 1974 and strike this sum, \$136,602 from the University's appropriation. I thank you. I hope for your support.

SENATOR CLARK PRESIDING

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Koch, and then Senator Warner.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Chairman, I'll defer my time to Senator Warner. Don't feel bad, Senator Warner. That's happened to me several times. I appreciate Senator Newell's persistence, but I don't agree with his proposals. If there is one thing the Legislature has done I think over the past few years that we can be somewhat proud of, and I think the evidence is there, is that we established a program called areas of excellence, academic excellence, and for us now to diminish that sum of money, I believe is lack of good faith. There is evidence that these programs that were designated to improve the quality of staff and programs in the various colleges is, in fact, effective. Senator Newell, for some reason I have difficulty to understand, is now trying to attack one of the most important things that we offer to education and that's a quality education and you do this by upgrading staff and programs, and thereby there is a distinct advantage that accrues to the students, and I'm talking basically native Nebraska students, because that's what our population generally consists of. So I rise to oppose Senator Newell's proposal. This is not the place to try to cut the University, not where we're talking about quality of programs and qualities of staff.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, I'd rise to oppose the motion for a couple of reasons. First, the Committee did review the continuance of this amount of funds and with some considerable discussion. One slight correction, the funds are not being utilized to continue the review of the areas of excellence, but rather because of the success of the areas of excellence, the Committee felt and the purpose for the funds is to continue a similar kind of review of programs in a number of other areas for seeking improvements or elimination of those programs. It's kind of using the funds for the kind of purpose that was discussed earlier, and it seems to me that it would be a serious mistake to take away that review of ongoing programs outside of the areas of excellence, attempting to get the same upgrading that was intended by that program together with the review of the effectiveness and the continuation of a number of programs as they are making their review.