

the farm. We knew that technique. We knew a little bit about animal husbandry. We knew a little bit about some other things, but I submit to you that many of those people that graduated FFA on the farms at the time I graduated went directly to the farm and were successful. You can't do it today. You have got to have that as a background, then you move on into Agribusiness and pick up the skills you need. For us to strike this section, you might as well just say, we don't want to deal with anything dealing that provides educational opportunities, and vocational education is an educational opportunity. All we are saying to schools right now is we are going to give you 49 to 75 dollars a child in that program to encourage you to maintain it and hopefully with quality. It may mean the difference between keeping a faculty member or losing a faculty member. It will mean the difference between keeping that program or cutting that program. So that's why I am so strongly in favor of LB 318. And I can't believe the Economic Advisory Council and the leaders of business and other places have not written you letters supporting this bill. I can't believe it. They should have been because they are concerned about young people coming out of the high schools and what kinds of a future they may or may not have.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Your time is up.

SENATOR KOCH: And what we do not provide in these programs, we are going to put on the street a boy and a girl that is stunted and inarticulate and will be way behind in competition, because there are many other places that competition is tough and if you don't believe me, look at Oklahoma. The State of Oklahoma puts over \$30 million a year into vocational education in their high schools and their voc tech schools, and I'll tell you that is a sum of money. We are putting \$108,000 of our general fund into high school vocational education. I think that shows you where our priorities are. So I am against Senator Lamb's amendment to strip Section 5.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Remmers.

SENATOR REMMERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I support Senator Lamb's amendment, and I...am I... I rise to support Senator Lamb's amendment, and I just want to remind you that I do not believe that this bill as it is written is going to add a lot of vocational courses over the State of Nebraska. I think most of the schools already have those courses. I think they are important. They think they are important, and I believe they are going to keep them, because I realize that vocational education is