

the governor's goal was. We have simply emphasized our priorities. Now to the objections that have been heard and I know that you have gotten your calls from the University and told, oh, this is terrible from some public employees. This does not cut the public employees salary increase by a billionth of one penny. I repeat it, it does cut them at all contrary to what you have been told. What it may mean is if you have got ten employees and they are to get a ten dollar increase and you only have a hundred dollars available and you cut it back to ninety-eight dollars that when one quits or is laid off you may not replace them for two or three months, you may have to tighten your belt there. But, you have got other language, internal language in the bills that guarantees their pay increase. So, if you have been told, and I know that many of you have been told that you are cutting that pay increase for public employees, or University employees that is totally false. All you are doing is saying over all we are going to cut a little here, we are going to tighten our belt there so on and so forth. I really believe that that is the approach that maybe you should be taking. Now I passed out a second exhibit or handout. We have made state aid a fundamental part of our whole educational financing system. We are increasing because of the inflation and other things the budgets about 7% a year. If you don't also relatively increase that part of the finance of state aid and the financing package all you are doing is shifting that portion over to property. So if you stick with the budget the way it is, without any state aid increase, you are increasing the property taxes about two percent. That is what it is going to amount to, about a two percent increase for your property taxes because we haven't recognized that part of the budget as one of the priority items. I do believe that it is time, and I'm not attacking the University, but I would like to say that it is time for us to recognize that public education at the primary and secondary level and some of these other things that we as a legislature have dealt with are just as fundamental to the core of the budget as the University of Nebraska. You can't say that they are entitled to a 13% increase or a 12.8 or whatever and that your financing system for public education at the primary and secondary level is somehow the bastard child of government, something we don't really have to be responsible for, and we just give it as a gift, that is a fundamental obligation. Primary and secondary education we should recognize the state responsibilities just as much as the University. But