

SENATOR NICHOL: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, Senator Cullan is correct, we do differ on this. I just want to speak very briefly on one or two items that he mentioned. This has nothing to do with the 7 percent mill limit. You can have any kind of a limit you want and the technical colleges and community colleges are hamstrung because of a bill that was run through this Legislature many years ago that put them in the particular position that no other school in the state is subject to, namely two mill levy limits, or two limits in taxation. Now no other schools in the state are prohibited from reaching their 7 percent, no other one. Now I don't see any reason why we should come here scrounging, begging, down on our knees and two years from now saying, Legislature, please do something as we have been doing, begging the Legislature over the past several years to let us do something to raise more money. What is the college out there doing? Raising approximately 3 percent above its present spending limit. Do you think that is fair as compared to what we are doing with other schools in the state? What's the University of Nebraska getting? You well know. What are the four state colleges getting? You well know. It is no where near 3 percent. I ask that you defeat Senator Cullan's amendment here to sunset this in two years simply to make us suffer, squirm, scrounge and come back begging on our knees.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. Chairman, respectfully I would request that Mr. Cullan withdraw his amendment for the time being because 352 is here and it's ahead of this bill, and there may be some changes made on 352. For us to accept his amendment at the present time I think would not be in our best interest. I can understand what he is saying, and I am not totally opposed to it. But there may be some reason to make another kind of amendment on Select File and I would be willing to work with Senator Cullan along with others to try to get the amendment that he is trying to adopt now. So I am asking Senator Cullan in good faith if he would withdraw this amendment until Select File, let us see what happens to 352, and then make the changes that we have to make. I might also add for your edification that Western Tech has some problems that we have all been a part of, one area is with 284. That's a problem. The other one is, railroad taxes. That's a problem. And so we have got to take a look at all systems. Now I would hope Senator Cullan would withdraw the amendment and then at Select File I will work with him along with others to