

around the world, and I think it would be a severe mistake for us to interject ourselves into decisions made by the Board of Regents as to how the University should spend these funds. So I would respectfully oppose this and ask that we get onto other more important business that involves more dollars than this does. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR LAMB: The Chair recognizes Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. President, colleagues, I just wish when they were talking about University budget cuts earlier this year and Regent Kermit Hansen said he had a "hit list", that he would have shared his "hit list" with the members of the Legislature, then we might have known what the Regents' intentions were and we might not be debating some of these things now. But Kermit Hansen, or Regent Hansen did not see fit to share his "hit list" with the Legislature. Evidently there must have been something very secretive about it I guess that nobody should know about it but he and a few others. I agree with Senator Haberman about the Alumni Association. I wonder how many thousands of graduates that UNL and UNO have, and I wonder when you compare those to private colleges and private universities that have alumni associations, where do they get their money? Do they go out and raise it themselves? How many times have we heard, it's time that the people get out and work for themselves and do something for themselves. And here we have an Alumni Association probably composed of the greatest amount of professional people, your doctors, your lawyers, your CPAs, UNO and UNL graduates probably are in the upper echelon of income in Nebraska, and what they are saying is, we who were educated by our state University don't feel any obligation to the University or any gratitude to do it all ourselves like private schools do. We say, once you taxpayers have subsidized our education in the public universities, now you subsidize our alumni activities no matter how noteworthy they might be. I am sure your private universities and colleges' alumni associations have just as good a programs that they work for. So what I would just like to remind you is you have all reminded us at some time or another that there comes a time when the people have to get out and do something for themselves, and I think what Senator Haberman's amendment does and what I am trying to do is send a message to the Board of Regents who ultimately will decide what is going to be cut, of how we feel about it. And that is the way I feel about it. Get ahold of the alumni and say, if you really care about your school, then get out there and do something about it besides ask us to raise taxes to support it. We are already supporting the school. I think they ought to do a little bit on their own. After all, they are where they are today because of that University. Thank you.

SENATOR LAMB: The Chair recognizes Senator Cullan.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I don't want to take a great deal of time but I do want to express my appreciation to Senator Haberman for bringing some of these issues to our attention. I don't know enough about the Afghan Studies Program to probably make a decision, but I can certainly understand his appreciation for the other two items and I do appreciate his research and effort in this regard.