

specific program, the JUMP Program. I said, explain this to me, and for someone with my background, which is limited in the area of mathematics and who struggled to get through algebra and geometry and trigonometry in high school, it clearly made sense to me. I think some of the concerns that have been raised by Senator Schmit, with regard to are we starting early enough and is it something that doesn't need to be addressed prior to even secondary education, I think those are things that we need to address in the future. But I think this program, when you look at the statistics that show the improvement that has taken place, just in that last year of high school, clearly states that it is one we need to support. The other day about, I guess last Saturday or the Saturday before that, don't remember which, I was asked to come out and talk to...it was about 60 to 75 mathematics teachers from all over the state who were in Omaha to specifically learn and be taught the process within the JUMP Program and they were very enthusiastic about it. It was something that I found exciting to see a number of these high school teachers who would give up their weekend to learn this process so that they could pass it on to their students and have them as well trained as possible before entering the college or the university level. So I think that it is something that a very small amount of money, with regard to the A bill that is attached, it is something that is very well spent. I think you can clearly see the results when you look at how these same students test out after they've been through this program and the level at which they are able to enter the university system. So, with that, I may not totally agree that the A bill ought to be attached. I think it is an important enough program that the university ought to, out of their budget, be able to fund it. But, if we need to pay for it in this manner, I guess we need to. But I think it is important enough that we appropriate the money in this fashion because it is a very worthwhile program and one that I think we all should support. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Crosby, please.

SENATOR CROSBY: Mr. President and members, thank you very much. I, too, support LB 134. Mathematics is becoming more and more important as we come to the nineties and the year 2000. I know, from personal experience, I know of students who come up, literally, the day before graduation and realize they are lacking a credit in math because they didn't understand in high school, or didn't pay attention that they had to take 90C, as it