

teachers and faculty and people we have, one of our greatest resources that we have never really used or encouraged as much as we should. I think Senator Barrett should be commended for his New Horizons project and for this bill being one of the first ones to come to the floor from that project. It's a great idea. I think it's a worthy cause to get students involved in a leadership training program, to get the youth of Nebraska involved in knowing about their state government, knowing about our state and the importance that they serve as future leaders in our state. I would certainly encourage everyone to vote for the bill, I think it sends a strong message to the youth of our state and to their parents. So I would urge you to support and advance the bill.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Hannibal, please, followed by Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Mr. President, members, unfortunately I have to stand in a little bit of an ogre situation on the bill, not because I'm opposed to the bill, but I do think it is important that we point out a couple of things that are potentially ineffectual in the bill. I appreciate the New Horizons project as much as anybody. I appreciate the Speaker's involvement in the project, and I appreciate the Research Department's involvement and, as a matter of fact, all the involvement we've had over the last year and a half with the body. I was somewhat concerned, however, realizing the pragmatism of the committee amendments. I was somewhat concerned that the committee amendments were adopted, because what could happen under the bill, as it was amended by the committee, is that we may have, we have the possibility of a duplicating situation with this bill. I understand that that is not the goal of the bill, and I understand it's not the goal of the Speaker or the Department of Research or any of us on this floor. I only stand to say that we must be careful that we don't get into a duplicative situation. If, in fact, these leadership positions go to people, go to students, go to young people that already are involved in leadership programs through different organizations that we have around the state, if, in fact, these potential leaders are already leaders and already in the top of their class and already doing all of these things, then we really haven't accomplished the goal of the bill. The goal of the bill is to take potential leaders who haven't, through the traditional means of measurement, shown that leadership ability. But for us, as individuals, to select from our districts young