

really, really need this study and having the coordination and cooperation brought about that is needed within postsecondary education. Now I made the statement that students out in the far west were closer. For many years, the students were able to get onto the train eight o'clock in the evening and be on the campus the next morning. For many years, they could get on the train in the evening here in Lincoln and get off at Alliance, Scottsbluff, be in western Nebraska, or those that went to Rushville, Chadron. Today it is essentially prohibitive to fly because of cost. You have to have an automobile to get here. The contact with that university was closer but has the university reacted that way for that problem, to that problem? No. Now with regards to the cooperation of institutions, this becomes extremely difficult to get done. When you talk with administrators you will get, yes, we would like to cooperate but this doesn't fit, that doesn't fit. Throughout the many years of experience that I have had with the university and with the other institutions, I find that they have become highly competitive, extremely competitive for dollars. But who, within this whole group, is looking at the total, total needs of...the educational needs of the people of Nebraska? I want to point out that the institutions look inward more than they look outward. I have had the experience of being able to bring about a cooperative teaching relationship between the University of Nebraska faculty in western Nebraska and Nebraska Western College. This was not within favor of much of the University of Nebraska. I want to point out that as soon as I left as administrator that program went down the drain.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR WEIHING: Are they thinking of the people? Now what I'm getting at, this bill is to look at the coordination, the cooperation, the utilization of faculty, the utilization of buildings, look at the state and what it needs, what the people need. We must bring it about and it's got to be done from something that's higher than the institutions that we now have. They have to be brought together and I am for the Withem amendment and for this bill. It is overdue and I hope that we will move it along.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Withem, please, followed by Senator Langford and Senator Kristensen. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Yes, Mr. President, members of the body, I