

discuss that issue fully. Every one of us probably have some changes we would like to make to higher education. Maybe we would like to change the Board of Regents. Maybe we would like to change the governance of the state colleges. Maybe we would like to create a big superboard. Maybe we would like to do a lot of different things in higher education. I think that is fine, and we need to debate that issue here in the Legislature for a variety of reasons, but all of us have our causes, and all of us have our changes, whether it is this year or next year. But do you know something? If we don't create a challenge to the Attorney General's Opinion on this very matter, you are going to be foreclosed from ever doing that, because you are going to need a vote of the people every time you want to have a change in higher education. You don't want that. I don't want that. This body is here for a reason, and that reason is to discuss the issues of higher education and every other issue in this state. If we don't come down and get a bill passed, such as Kearney State, to make this challenge, you are going to be going a long way towards saying, yes, Attorney General, you are right. I happen to respect Bob Spire a lot. I respect him because he is a colleague. I respect him because he is a very good lawyer, but I disagree with him and disagree with him violently. The key to this is that we need to discuss the merits of the Kearney State issue. It is not going to go away. Your political decisions aren't going to be solved by putting this off and I would support the suspension of the rules and will talk in depth, once we have suspended the rules, about the differences of the Attorney General's Opinion and how I think we can go about rectifying the problem that has been created for us. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABOUD: Question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The question has been called. Do I see five hands, please? I do. Those in favor of ceasing debate please vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? The question is ceasing debate. Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 3 nays, Mr. President, to cease debate.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Debate ceases. Senator Warner, would you care to close on your motion to suspend the rules?