

to see that recent vote. They like the idea of having Kearney under the university system. They think they can control Kearney better there, an opposite view of what I have. They feel that by bringing Kearney into the system, they can diminish its wild ways, perhaps is one view that you might have, and perhaps they will be successful in doing that. Maybe they will be able to do the opposite of what I think. Maybe we'll be able to bring spending under control, be able to keep the quality that we need in our university system, be able to understand the vision that I think we have to have for our state. But I truly think that they will have difficulty accomplishing that goal. And a Board of Regents that is currently elected by district, you have regionalism and in that regionalism you have...I think there are eight board members, you will have a split that will be such, I think, instead of Kearney being kept under control, as anticipated, it will, in fact, perhaps be unleashed and unleashed again to the detriment of the overall state. I think that that is a misguided view. It is one that hasn't been expressed on the floor, but after that vote it needs to be shared. I think that the handwriting is on the wall at this point and I don't know exactly what all the thinking is for many of you that voted the way you did. I think there is great disappointment by a lot of people. I talked before about this not just being a Lincoln issue. If you look at a poll that was done, you'll see a majority or at least more people opposing the vote you just made than supporting it and that is not just Lincoln, but that's...across the state you'll find more people, and I think 39 percent in favor, 43 percent opposed. I think they demand and deserve the right to know more about this issue than they are being given right now, to understand the implications of it, to be given a chance perhaps to vote on the issue. The Attorney General's Opinion said that we can't do what you just voted to do, and perhaps a court test will prove otherwise. But the other flip side of that is you're denying the people of this state a chance to vote on this very important issue. You're denying the voters of this state the opportunity that here are the arguments and to make a decision for themselves. You've decided to circumvent the opportunity to place the issue on the ballot and I think the issue is big enough to take that step. You've also decided not to wait and studiously examine the implications rather than to rush forward and then, of course, it's been said, well, this won't do anything. If the study finds a different course of action is best, well, we can change course. Garbage, garbage. And we're not fools to accept it. I'm not one anyway. You've made a