

You're not addressing whether or not you're going to go follow through with some authorizing legislation a few years back of offering NBA programs in Wayne and Chadron. You're just dealing with Kearney by itself and you're, in my opinion, you're ignoring everything else. I know, Senator Withem, the original intent of LB 247 is to study all of this together and then try and reach some conclusion. I think that's...you know I'm not really saying we need to necessarily study it anymore, but I think we have to make these decisions in concert with one another because I think when you simply make this decision on Kearney, and I don't care what sort of amendment you want to talk about, about coming back and revisiting the issue next year. Once you set in statute that Kearney shall be part of the university come 1991, it's going to happen. And I think it's important that we follow the lead that many other states have used and do it all at once and you're going to do it. That is what most states have done. And also, I mean, another thing we have to keep in mind is that most states, when they have reorganized higher education, particularly in the last 15 years, with the exception of Massachusetts, what they have done is they have increased the coordinating commission's powers and maintain a separate governance and that's one thing I'd prefer to look at it that way. But I think when you just make the decision with Kearney by itself, you ignore everything else. I think that's unwise for the taxpayers in the State of Nebraska and I think it's unwise and I'm concerned about what we're going to do in all of higher ed. When you divorce Kearney from all those other decisions you lessen the weight on the decision-making process on those other decisions and we shouldn't do that. Now the proponents of Kearney, if, saying the proponents of Kearney have talked about Kearney being...already being a university, and I guess I'd like Senator Kristensen to answer a few questions.

PRESIDENT: Senator Kristensen, would you respond, please.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR MOORE: Senator Kristensen, you've repeatedly said that Kearney is already a university, correct?

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: Yes.

SENATOR MOORE: And you've repeatedly said that Kearney is different than the state colleges, correct?