upcoming years. And the policy decision I think the body needs
to look at is at this particular juncture, on the questionable
thing of where Kearney is going and how it's going to be in the
next year or so, do we want to put in 1.9 or whatever million
dollars into a third story, on rooms and brick and mortar, or is
there something else out there that we might be able to spend a
little bit less, 1.7 million dollars, that would do two things?
A, it would improve education within the state colleges, all
state colleges, in all the State of Nebraska, and, B, which it
would be something that would help do the same that is being
done at the university, and that is library automation. The
body may not realize that there is an intensive study done over
the past years by the state colleges, as to what was it that
state colleges needed in regards to library automation. And
that bill was introduced, LB 770. But LB 770 was the entire
picture, how much would be needed in library automation. Bottom
line was if we went to phase one, we needed $1.7 million. In
fact, we said 1.9 to 2 million dollars, but the bids have been
out and it looks like it will be 1.7 million dollars. And I
think what I'm asking the body at least to look at is a policy
decision. True, we need some space, but I suspect very highly
and very sincerely that the space has been needed for a long
time. And Senator Langford has heard this before, and she'll
cringe when she hears it again. Space has been needed for a
long time. Until we know exactly what Kearney is going to be
doing within the university system, space is still a commodity
that can be dealt with within the existing structure of the
Kearney State College. But the body then, if we fail not to put
the money into Founders Hall this particular time, is there a
place that we can put the money that would still help state
colleges and still help education of all students within state
colleges, that which would bring information and computer
information to libraries and unite all of them to bring
information at the student's fingertips, that which is necessary
for all students to have, that which the university system is
now putting in, that which was not put in the appropriations
budget which, in my opinion, was unfortunate? I think we have
an area that we can do. I certainly do not think it would be
feasible at this point to offer an amendment to switch money
from going to Founders Hall into something else. I think what
the body would have to do is make a decision, do we want the
money to go to Founders Hall? If we do not, then an amendment
would have to be offered on 814, I believe, after the Hartnett
amendment has been gone through, line by line. That would then
put the money into library automation. And I do think it's a