

they were going to Northwest Missouri State University. And I asked them why and they all went on about the great things they do with computers there, and about how there is a computer terminal in every room, and how that campus, at least they had been led to believe, and the university will argue, and maybe arguably true that it wasn't necessarily the case, but they were led to believe that if you want high tech and you wanted much more accessibility to students, that state university, state university I said, Lorraine Langford, state university down in Missouri was a better place to go than our flag ship institution, and a lot better than our state colleges. And I guess I always just kind of wondered why is that...why isn't that a priority in Nebraska. And the priorities seem to be some brick and mortar type functions like this. And I understand the need problem at Kearney, and that is a definite need problem. Maybe if you would have adopted my amendment on LB 813, and changed the tuition rates, you may have solved your need, your space needs a little differently then, but that is something we're not going to do. But I think Senator Bernard-Stevens raised an interesting point, and even though I understand what Senator Scofield, they should not be competing, well unfortunately for I, myself, these things, like all things, do compete. And I guess I would concur with Senator Bernard-Stevens now, particularly now that we're finalized on what it is. Library automation, in my opinion, is a step towards more computerization. I think the students needs are a higher priority, and maybe it's all for naught. Maybe you don't need to do that. But I know I've talked to enough younger people in Nebraska that are having a problem with that. And I really think that a higher education system, even though this is I know space needs for students, I really am wanting to see us move toward some things where we do some of these computer type activities that would perk up a student's interest, help in recruiting and make our state colleges and all sectors of higher education more lucrative for our students to stay in the state. I guess I just have a problem when the bricks and mortar like contained in this particular amendment are a higher priority than those things, when I know at least just from informal polling among my district's losing us some very sharp students out of the State of Nebraska, I think it's something we ought to start thinking about.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens, please, followed by Senator Langford.