

juggling books in order to accomplish a program. We really haven't established any cap, any spending limit by moving part of a program in one fiscal year and another part in another fiscal year. Let's just be up front and do it. And if we're going to appropriate...or allow the expenditure of the million dollars, let's give them the discretion to expend that as the need arises, where the need arises, and I think that we will find that, as it's been in the past, the need will in most cases not be a \$100,000 but will be something smaller than that. But if an opportunity is there that would cause the need for an expenditure of over a \$100,000, let's just simply give them the flexibility to do it. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Crosby, please, followed by Senators Moore and Smith.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, I reiterate a couple of the things that Senator Coordsen said concerning the number of...that the six training projects in three years, six of them did go over a \$100,000 for the training. But, along with that, I think you will all agree, we all know that when a company is looking at a state like Nebraska, in particular, where we have such a big rural population or a big rural area, the availability of a skilled labor force is crucial as to whether or not they will come into this state and it takes a lot of money to train these people. One of the reasons I support the community colleges so strongly, especially Milford and those schools, is that they do train people for factory work, or whatever, when these companies are looking at the State of Nebraska to expand or put up a...put in a new facility. They need people who can go to work and know what they're doing. They can't train them on the job, most of them. So, also when this was brought to me and asked me to go on this amendment it was made clear to me there is nothing behind this that we're going to give a million dollars to one company or to one town or to one individual. It just gives the department the flexibility they need to look at each individual training project and see what needs to be put into it. I could conceive that maybe some of them don't cost a \$100,000 but maybe one of them would cost 120 by the time they figure out how many people needed to be trained and how much time it will take at each school and so on and each situation to do that. So I would urge you to vote for this and give them that leeway. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Moore.