

futile to inject anything else into this whole decision, I'm going to support LB 247.

PRESIDENT: The motion is withdrawn. Anything else on the bill, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Wesely would move to return the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Wesely, please.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Senator Moore may want to support the bill, but I don't intend to. But I would just like to, one last time, raise a review of the issues and suggest that perhaps we need to vote against this bill, knowing that that won't happen, but, nevertheless, trying to make the case. First off, let me review again how we reached this point. Now we've talked about how this issue has been around this state for a long time. But the last time I recall, or the first time, I should say, I recall this issue really being brought to the forefront was about a year ago when Senator Langford and Senator Miller, at that time, talked about changing the name of Kearney State from a college to a university. I've been here 11 years, I don't recall us talking about Kearney State becoming a university or joining the university system until about a year ago. So this long time we've looked at this, we've thought about it a lot, issue and argument I think does not fly in the face of reality. Then after that discussion about changing the name, Senator Warner entered the picture and suggested that the Kearney State campus be brought into the university system, if you recall. Frankly, Senator Warner's name isn't on this bill, but it ought to be because the simple truth of the matter is that this would not be happening without Senator Warner's leadership. We all respect and admire him and we know he's a strong supporter of the university and higher education, and when he says it's in the best interest of the state to have Kearney brought under the university system, even I, who have serious, very strong doubts about it, have to listen and give pause to that. So, Senator Warner's entering into the picture is what I think made the dynamic difference in this whole issue. Nevertheless, we had opposition by the Board of Regents, the Board of Trustees, the Coordinating Commission, the Attorney General's Office on constitutional grounds, and the Governor, all raising the point that we ought to study first and act later. Well, at this time the university, though taking