

that position, the central administration decided to shut down the lobbying forces at the university, while the Kearney State advocates turned up the heat, and while this was all going on, I guess some of us perhaps were asleep at the wheel, not anticipating what was about to occur. But what occurred was a General File amendment which was essentially a blitzkrieg that ran right over us that had concerns about this issue. I applaud those that were able to muster the political muscle to ram this down our throats, those who oppose this change at this time. But, nevertheless it doesn't bode well for regional cooperation and total state cooperation on this whole issue. When you have a position of the opponents of this bill saying we're not opposed, absolutely, finally, completely, we'd like to see a study, we'd like to talk about the implications, we'd like to know where we're going, that's the one position. The other position was we don't care what you think, it's time, we want it, we'll have it, we're going to do it. And that sort of absolutism does not open up arms and reach out to embrace one another, to try to understand each other's concerns. We understood, the opponents of this bill understood the concerns of Kearney State. I don't think you've seen me say, no way, anytime, to Kearney State coming into the university. What you've heard me say is we've got to know what we're doing here, and we don't know what we're doing here. Whether it be about tuition, whether it be about the governance issue, whether it be about programmatic changes, whether it be about fiscal impacts, the whole idea of a plan, the whole idea of an understanding of where we're going is lacking, but we're going to go forward, I guess, anyway with LB 247. But I, for one, am resentful of the fact that we have not decided to be cooperative, not decided to study this issue and then move forward. And I, frankly, feel like this is being rammed right down my throat. I think that's a wonderful feeling when you're able to do it, but it's not so fun when it's being done to you. But there it goes, there we are, and here it comes. Now my suggestion is, after this bill passes, despite my opposition, and hopefully some others, what will happen, I've talked to the Attorney General, is he does plan to challenge this in court, does plan to take this immediately to court and see what sort of constitutional question can be resolved as quickly as possible by the Supreme Court. He said to me that he thought this could be done within the next year, that means next session we can revisit this issue, perhaps, because we will have a court decision, maybe, and we will have a study, maybe, that will look at this issue. So I, for one, would ask, even if you do plan to vote for this