

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR BARRETT: This is one of the reasons I asked for permission to co-introduce this bill. Let me call your attention to New Horizons for Nebraska, our statement of vision said that one of the things that we must do is a better job of coordinating higher education. Every stop we made, almost, not entirely, but almost every person we talked to said let's get a handle on a coordination of higher education in this state. We spend a lot of capital in enhancing higher education. And, as Senator Withem says, let's make sure we are getting a bang for our buck. This was one of the Speaker's initiatives to come out of New Horizons. Let's keep our eye on the doughnut and not on the hole. This is a coordination of higher education bill. I would urge its support. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: You're the next speaker, Senator Barrett, did you wish to use your time? You're the next speaker on the list. Okay. Senator Crosby, please, followed by Senator Lamb.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I didn't get to talk before. First, I second everything that Senator Withem has said and Senator Barrett. And I don't know where that saying started, by the Mayflower Doughnut Company or one of those, as you go through life, brother, no matter what your goal, keep your eye upon the doughnut and not upon the hole. That's where I learned it. All of you know that I am dedicated to education, kindergarten, preschool up through the doctorate studies. One of the reasons I feel strongly about the University of Nebraska at Lincoln is because I'm a recent graduate, and I think perhaps because of that I know a lot more people who are currently on the campus of the University of Nebraska, both here and in Omaha. And so maybe that is part of the reason I have some emotional feeling about this. But I do think that Senator Withem stated the whole case very well. I do not feel that anyone was out trying to get me because I didn't want Kearney State to come in. And, now that Kearney State is going to come in eventually, there are two things that comfort me. To start with, the Attorney General's Opinion has to be dealt with, and we want to be sure that we are on firm ground when this happens. The second thing, if and when Kearney State does come in and it's part of the university system, it will be part of that system. Under the guidance, direction, counseling of the President and the Board of Regents, the parameters will be set to make it into the best school. And we do want a good