

authority. And maybe if we have three or four people, each year, or every other year, announce, that we can continue to bring some very, very good acts and programs through the Legislature and I would encourage that. On a more serious note, the State of Nebraska and the Legislature, quite often, is reactive. We're always reacting to a crisis. We reacted to the 4-R Act. We reacted to the pipeline. We're still in reaction to school finance. We're reacting to property tax crisis and so on. Very seldom do we take the time or have the time possibly to actually look in the future, see a potential problem propping up, if you wish, and then attacking that particular problem before the crisis hits. If we haven't learned on the railroads, as far as the lines beginning to close, and some of the problems we've had on the bus service in the northern tier part of our state, we need to take a little bit more time to look at that, because those problems have happened, we've seen it, and now we've tried, in the past, to react to that. With the deregulation of the airline industry and the continuation of the problems we have each year of getting emergency air service funds at the federal level, there is a clear possibility that the State of Nebraska could be, as far as outstate Nebraska, could be in some type of difficulty in regards to air service. I think Senator Scofield has brought before us, along with the other co-sponsors, a bill that will be proactive. We're going to look at the problem, we're going to come up with solutions that will fit in Nebraska. There are other models out there. South Dakota has...is a couple of years ahead of us, but we can certainly look and see what they have done. Certainly what they have done is not going to fit Nebraska perfectly. But there are a lot of other models out there. And I'd like to conclude with one point. There was some confusion on the bill that the state was going to get involved and have its own airline in competition with the private industry, and that is not the case. This is a bill where we're going to work hand in hand, as in many cases we try to do, where the private and public sectors work together to find what is in the best interests of the State of Nebraska. Whenever you have the private sector coming in and supporting something such as George Poulos, who came in and gave some excellent testimony to the Government Committee, whenever you have that private sector coming in and working with government to stimulate a plan and action for the future,...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: ...we've got something, I think, that