

planning. There simply is no entity that exists in Nebraska today that does long-range planning. Yes, the Legislature can, it's the only one that constitutionally can. But we all know that we're dealing with many, many complex issues. And the kind of detail that long-range planning needs, when coupled with the turnover that we normally have in this body, that continuity of long-range planning is exceedingly difficult to do. And I say that being one that was in strong support, introducer of legislation which generally is referred to as legislative coordination, was enacted in 1978 over a Governor's veto. And I was convinced that that could work. In a far simpler world, I think it could work. But we know the kinds of issues we're looking at across this state for access, for postsecondary education, the impact of telecommunications, the ever-tightening availability of adequate revenue for all of the things that we are required to consider and to support, to some extent, where we can. We know that a more efficient, effective system for postsecondary education is going to be absolutely essential, if we're going to maintain any kind of quality to our programs across this state. And we do not have...

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR WARNER: The purpose of coordination could be best explained is that you give authority to someone to say, no, where no is necessary to be said. That's what it's for. And I suspect that many of those who oppose this change, it's out of fear because they know that is what effective coordination is, it is someone who can say no, that activity is not to be done at that site, that program is not to be done at that site, because we cannot efficiently and effectively provide a quality education by doing it. At the same time, when you say no, you also have to recognize that there is some method of access, many times, that nevertheless has to be provided. And I am convinced that that long-range planning has to be delegated to a body outside of this body that looks at the system of the state as a whole for postsecondary education,...

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR WARNER: ...they're divorced from the governance issues on a campus, which in fact does create the turf issue, and I believe this proposal meets those requirements for improved higher education.