

Everyone is asking the what ifs, but one...there's one thing that is out there that is a known, that is a known. We don't know who would actually be appointed. We don't know who exactly would be elected, but we do know the people that are out there that have an interest in education that could be on the board, people like, you know, Bill Nester out at Kearney, or Dr. Mash out at Wayne, or maybe even Keith Blackledge of North Platte, or a Don Blank, or a Dr. Rankin, or Martin Massengale. There are tremendous intellectual people out there who have a sincere belief in doing what is best for education, and one of the things I think we are doing again is selling our own people short. Give them an opportunity to work together, and what the body has not done is said I wonder what these groups together can do. And the potential of...tremendous potential that could be unleashed by what we do is being totally ignored. We are assuming the worst of people rather than assuming the best of what they can do, and I would put to you that you create a new board and combine state college philosophy and university system philosophy with the best minds that we have there and I think the body will be amazed of what might happen. Don't sell our own people short. If we can do it, or at least we believe we can, I can guarantee you that they believe that they can, too, and they will do a good job, and I yield the rest of my time to the amiable gentleman from Lexington, Senator Bill Barrett.

PRESIDENT: Senator Barrett, you have a minute. Now you have less than a minute.

SENATOR BARRETT: Let's go to the next speaker, I believe my light is next, is not, Mr. President?

PRESIDENT: Yes, Senator Wesely is next and then you are next. Senator Wesely. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. President and members, and I appreciate the chance to at least say a few words about the bill, and understand once again, I do represent Lincoln and, of course, Lincoln has a great concern about the issue. Let me also indicate that Lincoln is not knee-jerk reaction opposed to change. I think what Lincoln is concerned about is legitimate and I would like to just discuss it for a minute. First off, clearly we are at a crossroads. I went over the history of the different campuses and what has happened there. If you look in the book, I believe it is on page 14, it talks about the history. We come from different places, the different campuses