

into those different campuses, I believe there is seven or so. They represent the four state colleges, UNO, the med center, and Lincoln, seven different parts of the system, now broken apart, yes, pulled back together under the Board of Regents, but perhaps irreparably broken apart into a vulcanization that pits region against region. And if there is anything that we in Lincoln want to see happen is that Lincoln campus should not be just a Lincoln campus. It should be a statewide campus, there to serve the whole state with graduate education and other types of programs. And I admit, they have fallen short, and I have been critical of the university because of that. I have had legislation into the Appropriations Committee trying to bypass the university system we have in place because I don't think it has been responsive enough to try and give more assistance to the economic needs of the state, more community development, more economic development, more research help to our small towns and our rural communities, and I think that, obviously, I have not succeeded very much on that. Some changes occurred. We had the poultry, aquaculture, and a few minor things get done.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: But some of the bigger changes have not occurred so, no, the system is not perfect. I don't know if it is broken down to the point we want to throw it out as this proposal would have us do, but I am not against change. I have supported going to an appointed Board of Regents. I have supported the different legislation I mentioned to try and bring the university into greater assistance to the whole state. It is simply that this proposal maybe goes farther than I feel comfortable with at this time and I care a great deal about the future of this state. I care a great deal about UNL, but I think UNL is tied to our state, and to bring UNL down, I feel you bring the state down, and that is why I feel that more discussion, more understanding of what we are happening here is in order, not because of a parochial concern, but because of a legitimate long-term sincere concern about Nebraska, and I think we all share that concern and, hopefully, as we decide what to do with this bill, the best decision will be made. But if we don't discuss and recognize these concerns, well, we just could be making a mistake that we will be very unfortunately suffering from...

PRESIDENT: Time.