

certain master's degree programs being offered at particular colleges if they are specialized and if they have unique needs and unique abilities to do that. For example, at UNO, it seems entirely appropriate to me that they would be uniquely situated for programs in criminal justice, for instance, in offering higher degrees in those programs, or in urban studies, perhaps. But, you know, you take another program like degrees in computer science, should there be doctoral degrees in computer science offered at other institutions other than the university? These apparently are very expensive kind of programs to offer...according to what I hear, and that becomes a question, you know. And as I see it, under the present structure if we don't have UNL and UNMC under one board, you are going to have these seven power bases all coming in and saying we want this degree program, we want that degree program, and they are going to come to the Legislature to get it.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR McFARLAND: Also, there is a problem of combining...also the appropriations to the Board of Regents, it seems to me that would control how those funds are delegated for graduate research education, and if it would offer some kind of restraint, but if you do not have that as in the present form of the bill, then you have it being decided not on the basis of good educational planning but on the political processes and the political power within the Legislature. This, to me, is an unmarked package. This bill is an unmarked package. We could unwrap it and it could be a Rembrandt painting, and everyone would hang it on the wall and think it is beautiful and everyone would admire it and say what a great change has been made. But at the same time, we could unwrap it and it could be a ticking time bomb that in ten or fifteen years we would look back at it and say, why in the devil did we ever pass this bill, why did this ever become a part of the Constitution?

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR McFARLAND: I think that there is enough doubt and enough problems with the bill that we would be wise not to advance it.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. May I introduce some guests in the north balcony of Senator Labeledz, please. We have 35 fourth graders from Robbins School in Omaha with their teacher. Would you