

whether it be the College Board of Trustees, the appropriations process which Senator Lynch often criticizes, you know, it went through none of those things, just came here because two senators wanted it, and I don't fault them for doing that, but I guess the rest of the body, I would fault you if you supported it because you reward that type of behavior, and at the same time take away funding for some things that I think all of us will agree are much higher priorities. And if you really want to spend money on the arts, I would suggest you go through the more accepted process maybe of funding, fully funding the Nebraska Arts Council, and things like that, as opposed to funding something that comes really out of nowhere. As I said, we created this in 1979, we created the collection, and we told them how to display the collection, and never once when we told them how to display the collection did we tell them to build a museum. That was their own decision. The cash funds that Senator Kristensen talks about to fund this, I mean, where do those cash funds come from? They do not...this thing does not fully fund itself I don't believe. I think those cash funds come from Kearney State College, probably, and I remember last year when I had such a bold and idiot idea of raising the tuition at Kearney State College, even more cash funds, you strongly opposed it. So I mean, for a variety of reasons that I have listed, I think you can now mark me as a solid no as opposed to leaning against. I urge the rest of the body to follow suit and say no to these type of requests and prioritize, give this the proper priority that it deserves, and that is much lower than many of the other very worthwhile things we need to fund in this body.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Bernard-Stevens, please.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members of the body, Senator Chambers, I hope this will be one of those days where you walk away from the body saying, I am glad I brought up the subject of art because I am walking away today with a much broader appreciation and more knowledge than I ever cared maybe even to know about this particular subject. And I want to begin that education just a little bit, not take too long, and I can't help, Mr. Speaker, you will understand this being from Lexington, that being from Cozad, as I am, a Cozad haymaker, Senator Chambers, the founder of the town of Cozad was a man by the name of John J. Cozad. He came out on the Union Pacific Railroad, he bought some land, and he wanted to settle for some reason on the 100th meridian, and he thought it would