

Senator Kristensen had to say is very important also because there is I think a good possibility that our Supreme Court is going to rule on the Kearney State issue fairly soon. I don't know how they are going to rule. I could not predict. If they rule that what we did last year on Kearney State is improper, it should not have been done, then we are going to have two more years before we can affect higher education in any way, shape, or form. If you favored the Kearney State maneuver last year, purely on Kearney State issues, you ought to be voting for 239CA, get it over so it will be on Final Reading, so that it can be voted on by the people this fall. Because if they rule that what we did last year is wrong, it is going to be more than two years before we can do anything. One of the lobbyists this morning had an interesting reaction I would like to share with you because there have been a number of things brought up this year where members of the body have said, well, yeah, you have got a serious problem you are trying to address out there, yeah, it is very important, yeah, I don't like the way such and such is operating, but, gosh, your proposal has some flaws in it too and I don't like it, and so let's just not do anything. This lobbyist's characteristic was if you want to do something, you need to be acting on behalf of this. If you just want to sit on the sidelines and complain, you could have stayed home and done that. You don't have to get elected to sit on the sidelines and complain about things. If you get elected, you need to come down here and help fashion solutions, and that is what we are trying to do with 239CA. The issue of voluntary coordination, Senator Chambers, I am glad that at least somebody noted the article here that was passed out. I passed this out to tell a little anecdote. About four years ago when I was first on the Education Committee I brought in proposals to strengthen coordination efforts, and I was kind of patted on the head by the Board of Regents saying, nice try there, son, but we are already doing this on a voluntary basis. We have established a Council on Public Higher Education and we are meeting all the time and we are providing this voluntary coordination. So, thank you for your interest, but we don't really need that. Now I find out that this silly group hasn't met for two years, and they have only begun to meet because the Legislature is starting to focus on this. And I would almost guarantee you, as soon as we adjourn and not do anything in the area of coordination of higher education,...

PRESIDENT: One minute.