

year institutions. Now in fairness to the supporters of the bill, they have, to 132, they have made the point that these will not become four year institutions of higher learning. I have concerns as to whether they will or will not grow into that. I have concerns about whether these will just do a better job of coordinating the educational needs that are there, or whether they'll grow into something bigger than it is. That's why I, personally, have concerns about 132. What the amendment does, though, what Senator Nelson's amendment does, it really doesn't add LB 132 to this bill, and we need to understand that. What it does is it says that this Coordinating Commission on Postsecondary Education, as it reviews new programs, as it will, whether we do anything with education centers or whether we don't do anything with education centers, when those proposals come forth they will be reviewing them henceforth. What the Nelson amendment does is it simply says that the first, in essence, the first program that they review, as they're in the process of developing their comprehensive plan, they will review this proposal for education centers. They will either approve them, or disapprove them, or approve them under certain conditions. And I have no problem with the amendment, although I do have a lot of problems with this body making the decision to establish a bunch of new programs, because I think some of the points you made about duplication of administrative services in this state is a very good one. So I tend to share your concerns about the education centers. I think what Senator Nelson is doing with her amendment, though, is it says that this body will hasten its approval of, or disapproval of the education centers so that the people out there will have a go, no go sort of determination. So I don't think this amendment causes great problems.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Withem. Senator Nelson.

SENATOR NELSON: In answer to Senator Lynch, this does not create another bureaucracy or another layer that is not needed. Out in greater Nebraska and so on we lack the opportunities for continuing education. What these centers are providing, they will not provide four year degrees. They provide a place for that nurse to upgrade her LPN to an RN through maybe Bishop Clarkson Hospital. I think there are seven colleges that would be involved. Provides a place for the University of Nebraska to come out for continuing education for the doctors. Kearney is now doing that in Grand Island in old Walnut Junior High School that they have two more years. For your information the average