

age of those students right now is 33 years of age, two-thirds of those are working women that are place bound. This simply creates a place that the university...there will be an extension center that the county is, incidentally, donating \$600,00 for. Four million dollars of this is private bucks, no capital construction from the Legislature or the State of Nebraska. You could not get education cheaper than this. These are people that are your age and my age or younger that are asking for a place for continuing education, working people that are place bound. Our community has come up with \$4 million which, in essence, would be a gift to the state for higher education. This is no different than the tech colleges, no different than Omaha U, no different than wherever you want to go. I'm not sure that North Platte and Wayne will want to come on board, but Scottsbluff and Grand Island certainly do. And this is private funding. We're not asking for capital funding, we're asking for almost peanuts, absolutely peanuts. And when I go through...this is not another bureaucracy. And, with that, I'll give my time to Senator Hillman, in case she has something else to say.

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

SENATOR HILLMAN: I would like to address this to Senator Lynch. Looking at the amendment, it doesn't establish education centers. I guess I just want to reinforce that. But what it does allow, for those that want to establish education centers, to have a time line where we can get started. And the way the bill is presently written, 663, we could be five years on down the road before anybody even looked at it. Then just looking at the concept, and I'll add this, it has nothing to do with the amendment, but the concept on education centers is just to look at a delivery of services for higher education, and that people needing higher education opportunities are not traveling to a campus. A campus is delivering these in a certain site, and it's multiple campuses, it's several institutions that come to one site to bring those services out to parts of Nebraska that cannot travel into an established campus to get it. That's the concept and that's the thing we're going to want to go to the newly established commission, to get them to adopt that, to look at a new way to deliver these services. But it's not included in 663. It only puts the time line in so we can get started as quickly as possible, that they will look at it. It doesn't get it started, it just gives us the opportunity to go to them next year, right away, and say this is what we want to do. We came