

two years ago that we started this thing.

SENATOR LYNCH: Did you know...since, well I guess it's my nickel, isn't it? At the university level it's my understanding that the university can spend whatever money we develop for salaries in any way they want because we have no authority or control over how that is accomplished. This is just at the university level. I made a motion at the Appropriations Committee that we honor the bargaining units at 90 percent of what they asked for. We knew that the total amount we had to spend was about \$10,600,000. That meant that the university at Lincoln campus got 4 1/2 and UNMC got 4 1/2, but given the double digit increases they had over the last four years and the fact that the peer groups that were involved with the universities had been designated by the organization hired by the Appropriations Committee to look in the peer groups, indicated they were all about even at that amount. That would have meant for example at Kearney they would have gotten about an eight point something percent increase. At UNO they got a six point something percent increase and I'm kind of curious, if you know we have to put into the statute for all state employees that they have to be considered like all of the other bargaining units. Do you think it should apply or do you think we should consider further amendment so it would apply at the university level as well?

SENATOR CONWAY: Senator Lynch, you're opening up an area...

SENATOR LYNCH: See, well let me real quick, the reason I asked the question is, now if the university doesn't give the Kearney campus and the UNO campus who have bargaining units at least a 90 percent, how do we cope with that in light of the fact that this is exactly what you are suggesting here, that somehow or another we should...you said we, in effect you implied we should honor the bargaining units, but that we should treat everybody else the same. It's just the opposite with the university level then. Should we do something in language on Select File with this particular bill to make sure at the university level those bargaining units at the university do get their fair shake then. I'd like to have you support something like that if we could.

SENATOR CONWAY: Would you like me to respond?

SENATOR LYNCH: Yeah.