

for 11 students. And along with the upkeep of the buildings. I serve on the 309 Committee, most every one of those buildings have had either new roofs on them out there, or have been...the upkeep is tremendous. I think there are 13 buildings. So, in essence, this again is where are we going to stop on spending money. And the Social Services has pointed out they have group homes. Last year there was a girl sent to Seward, Nebraska, in May, a group home there, and she was the only girl there, 7-days a week, 24-hours a day. How can you justify that kind of expense? I know everyone has...you know, there's need, and these are 10, 11, 12 students that...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR NELSON: ...again do need care, and they are special students. But we have the needy, we have all types of education, we have all sorts of programs. We have prisoners out at the prison, through the budget cut, that the Southeast Community College has been educating those prisoners so that they can come out prison, we're cutting that budget. So just think of it right on down the road. And how can we provide a budget such as this for ten students? I just...it's not feasible. One other part of the amendment states that no out-of-state placements will result from the closing of the Whitehall School. We cannot guarantee that as a state body, and we leave it up to the Department of Social Services. And that the use of the buildings currently housing the school will be available for use by the Lincoln Public Schools,...

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR NELSON: ...I have no problem with that, if that's what the body wants to do, or the taxpayers. But I think that this is another one of those that it's time to say no, and this is certainly to justify that kind of funding for that minimal number of students.

SPEAKER BAACK: Time. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Well, Senator Wesely, I certainly applaud you for bringing us this amendment as opposed to an amendment just to keep it open and appropriate fundings. Usually what happens when any state agency, or by acts of the Legislature we close things, soon, case in point, Curtis, case in point, Mexican-American Commission, things...whenever we, as a body, or