

General Fund. I would say that several years ago we did appropriate a million dollars for "probably yet to be fulfilled job training programs on the part of the Department of Economic Development". We have funded, as I said, \$450,000 a year out of this...the current biennial budget, and we are going to be funding \$300,000 out of that for job training, and I am sure that some of that money does go to pay the cost of the people who are providing the job training. I have not seen the breakdown on that exactly. As Senator Moore indicated, I have introduced legislation, I am hopeful that it will pass, that will restrict the uses of the contingency fund, and at any time that it builds up to a million dollars, that it would lapse into the Unemployment Trust Fund, which I think is a better use for the money than some of the things that have been used in the past. But in the meantime, I think a direct connection can be made based upon the historical uses of the last several years of the contingency fund that this fits the definition of its use, as authorized by statute, as well as anything else, addresses a current need. It is a one-time appropriation. It is nowhere close to the \$150,000 that was given to DED in addition to the 900 and some thousand dollars they still have left from the other million dollars that was appropriated. I think it is a good use for the funds. I would prefer that in the future we stop the raiding of the contingency fund, we use it to reenforce, to enhance the unemployment security fund for the benefit of the people who work in Nebraska, who might be needing those funds at some point in time if, in fact, we do have an increase in unemployment, and surely as cycles follow we do. But at the current time, we are not under that situation. I would encourage, again, the adoption of this particular amendment. My understanding that it was not felt by the community colleges that given the one-time nature of this was the proper use of the grant funds that had been allocated to it under the \$300,000 appropriation from the Appropriations Committee.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Madam President and members, I oppose this amendment, too. Senator Moore has reiterated the problem with this fund. I think it is maybe not an improper but at least an inappropriate use of this fund at this stage. But I think the main reason that I...we have put a lot of money into REM and NEB\*SAT and these various programs already, and still we haven't put in nearly enough. There is many other areas in this