

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Nelson. Senator Crosby.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, I was one of the holdouts on Appropriations Committee for quite a while on this particular amount of money and I'm pleased to support this amendment because Senator Nelson knows that I have had...I have been apprehensive about the educational centers and especially this year with the Coordinating Commission coming in as a new entity and beginning their work next year as looking at all of our educational programs and all of our institutions across the state. But I finally did vote for the \$74,000 and I got it cut down from \$84,000. There was a \$10,000 item in there for a fax machine and, for me, these days I don't think everybody in creation needs a fax machine. I did say in our committee meeting if I were really wealthy, what I'd really like to have is my own cook and my own hairdresser and my own copying machine. Well, now I should add a fax machine to that list, I guess, because everybody wants a fax machine. So I'm just giving a little bit of a history. We went through this at least three or four times and the one reason I did vote for it and I will vote for this amendment is I did...I know that Senator Nelson was under unbelievable pressure from Grand Island and from her constituency, and I had great sympathy for that, and Jan Thayer and some others came in and some people here from the University of Nebraska at Lincoln came in and talked to me about it to be sure that I understood what was going on. But I do like this amendment and I will vote for it. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Hillman.

SENATOR HILLMAN: Mr. Chairman, I, too, rise to support the Withem amendment, being one of the communities that's directly involved, and wanting to see learning centers probably accomplished in the future, we understand the process, look forward to meeting with the new commission. And I would support Senator Withem's amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hillman. Senator Warner, do you wish to close on your amendment? He waives closing. We will now vote on the amendment offered by Senator Warner. All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of Senator