

bit of my relationship with the University of Nebraska at Kearney, which it is now going to be, when people first talked to me about that and I think if you go way, way back, quite a ways back, the original idea of a lot of people in Kearney, they wanted to be the University of Kearney. They didn't want to be part of the Nebraska system. They wanted to be their own campus because they felt, and they are, they have grown so much and they serve so many people and they have such a mission in that area and in the state that they felt that they had the status of a university of its own. That didn't happen. With the LB 247 study and so on, as it evolved you could see what was going to happen is it was going to come in as part of the system. I voted against that. And people from Kearney, when I talked to them one of the things I said to them, your tuition's going to go up, you're going to become part of a big system, you're going to lose part of your identity because you're going to be part of that big system. As it was, they were the leader in the state college system. Now they're the younger brother in the system, in the university system. But the other thing I'm going to talk about, so, from that point of view, and I think that what Senator Bernard-Stevens said is correct and I'm going to vote against all this just because we're at the point where you can't keep voting for money, as Senator Scott Moore said. He stated it very well. And also I love it when Scott gets agitated because then he gives us all these personal revelations and he's such a human being, isn't he? We all love him because of that very humanness. But, at any rate, I think, and this is one of the things I have said ever since I came into Legislature, which hasn't been as long as so many of you have been here for like 20 or 30 years, the tail is wagging the dog in the budget system and here's what I say we need to do. We need to come in on the first day of Legislature and forget everything except the budget. We need to do away with the Budget Committee. The 49 senators need to be the Budget Committee. Every one of you who is not on the Budget Committee, and I call it "budget" because appropriations is such a long word, budget is so much easier and that's what we're talking about, is the budget, we need to bring it in on the first day and let each one of you look for what the agencies request, what they need, what they've been doing, what they are doing now, what they continue to do and what we have to pay for and then, after maybe three months, after we have looked at each one of those on the floor of the Legislature and hammered out what each agency may do and may not do, then introduce the rest of your bills and see if you have any money left. You see, we're doing it absolutely the opposite way of