

Senator Johnson so he can finish his statement.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Lynch. Senator Johnson.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Thank you, Senator Lynch. I would continue the statement that I was quoting from from Mr. McGahan of the North Platte Catholic Schools, and repeat the last sentence because it is of especial import. Nebraska should be taking a leadership role in this area, thus making the information explosion a generator of ideas and opportunities for the citizens of our state. A failure to move forward in this area, particularly in this movement of opportunity...in this moment of opportunity would allow our information systems to fall even further behind in an era of rapid technological expansion where behind may well equal loser. Omaha and Lincoln have already provided the leadership in this area, as have many of our academic libraries of the state. The project to automate the thirteen libraries involved in this effort is an important movement toward keeping Nebraska in step with the changing technologies of information. I thank you for the opportunity of allowing this information to be made a part of the record, and I urge the defeat of Senator Lamb's motion. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Johnson. Senator Cudaback. Do we see sufficient seconds? We do. We will now vote on the motion to cease debate. All those in favor please vote aye, opposed nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: We have ceased debate and I will recognize Senator Lamb for closing.

SENATOR LAMB: Thank you, Madam Chair. Well, it has not been often, it has not been often that I have been commended so much, but that has resulted in what I think is probably a very few number of votes. It doesn't seem to translate directly into votes. But, you know, what I am really testing is whether this Legislature or any legislature so conceived and so dedicated is willing to cut the budget, and I don't think it is. I don't think it is. I don't think it is. You are coming down next year with a big deficit, the year after that with another big deficit, and I won't be here to worry about it. I am just trying to help you now, but it isn't going to work. Six, eight hundred thousand dollars over three years, which, you know,