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programs that may be rightfully regarded as luxuries or programs that will be nice to have if we could afford them, and I consider that as one of them. The Youth Leadership Academy is one of those luxuries. In no way in one week's time are we ever going to accomplish what we'd like to, that is to teach thinking skills and address these students that are called at-risk. What are students at-risk? No one really knows. Initial participation was 65 students for which we spent over \$105,000. The next year participation was down to 58 students, and this year only 42 students bothered to participate. Apparently, even the students have lost interest in this program. I think the question that needs to be asked is, if we eliminate this program, will the students be negatively impacted? And the answer is no. Will a great number of students suffer if the program is cut? Again, the answer is no. Given the nature of the program, and the minuscule number of students that are participating, I don't think so. If we cut this program, no one will be harmed, no one will go hungry, no one will be without health care and no one will be without a job. These are the kinds of cuts that we're being asked to make daily down here now. I know \$30,000 allocated isn't much and it might be tempting to say, well, it's only \$30,000, Arlene, we can afford it. But if all of us searched out some of these programs that are nice to have but of what value, 30,000 here and 30,000 there seems...does add up to be real money. This year the program was carried out at Chadron State College. I think they did a very good job in what they were asked to do. Chadron State College estimate of expenses is \$13,000. Bus expense was 6,300 and staff lodging and operating 301 and 264. The estimated cost of the LRD staff was \$3,500 and this is one of the...one of the factors of the program. The LRD staff should not be having to try to recruit and get nominees for a program like that. We don't hire them for that purpose. They tell me that the staff time involved was considerable. So this year, with the 42 students, the amount, approximately amount expended is \$23,369 or a per-student cost of \$556. As we have discussed today, we're not doing anything for early childhood education. There are many education programs that we need and we're not able to support and fund. So I don't think I need to tell any of the other body, the senators, every senator on this floor, I'm sure, is familiar with this program. I might tell you that this year five senators had no students nominated from their districts. The senators were nominated to locate students on their own, however, none did. There were three senators who had at least one nominee from their districts but who declined to