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redirected to other areas. And, finally, most basic research, at least, is dependent upon an institution of higher education across the country. If Nebraska is going to have any status at all as an educational institution at a state, if you're going to have any status at all to attract some of the kinds of businesses that you want to attract, which tend to have higher pay in jobs, then you need a very viable component of research in higher education for that to be accomplished. One reason to get around the 775 on everything we talk about, I had an amendment on 775, but, because of the way things worked, was never able to get to it. But I had an amendment which I still think had a lot of sense, and that is that some of these refunds that people were eligible for would have gone, and they could designate, but would have gone to an institution of higher education for research, which would then be partially matched with state funds. But the impact would have been that there would have been a public benefit...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR WARNER: ...from that refund, as well as incentive to the particular business that the state would be assisting them in doing basic research or applied research, as the case may be, that would enhance their economic well-being. And those were approaches, I think, that could be used. But, finally, I have a lot of concern when we start talking about arbitrarily cutting research, blindly, without having identified what the programs are, because the long-term impact would be far more adverse, in my opinion, than any short-term benefit.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Warner. Anyone else wishing to discuss the Ashford amendment? Seeing no one, Senator Ashford.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. And I appreciate what Senator Warner has said. I know that many of us, including myself, have supported the research initiative at the university, and, hopefully, we can continue to do so. But there does...we are at the crunch time. We have reached the point where we have to make some tough decisions on allocation of resources within the university system. We spend to...including federal funds, \$106 million in research at the university. And I would be the first to argue that for the most part that money is being spent for good purposes and in the best interests of the state. Forty-one million, including...comes out of the