

state to roll the University of Omaha into the Lincoln, the University of Nebraska system. I think that was a proper thing to do then. I believe it is...was proper a few years ago when we brought in the Kearney State into the university system. Things change in education and things change in terms of what needs to be offered in terms of curriculum. I believe that this is vitally important. I think that the folks in Omaha, I could answer tongue in cheek, sure, if we don't have to send any money down here to fund the Lincoln system or the Kearney system, the state college system, fine, we'll buy it back, in effect, but that would be ridiculous and it would take us five steps back instead of going one step forward which is what this proposal is all about. We are there and there's good movement in the direction to establish this engineering college. I just feel that this is a critical component of that. I do not...nobody asked me to offer that, this amendment, I just believe it's vital. If we're going to spend planning money we need to have somebody there who has got the administrative power to make some decisions and I believe it's critical when you add those new positions, those new faculty members as are allowed for in the budget, you've got to have a dean on staff and I think it does show that...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...we understand and agree with the commitment that...

SENATOR VRTISKA: I'd like to have my minute back if you don't mind, Senator Hall. I appreciate your...

SENATOR HALL: I was going to talk till you complained, Senator.

SENATOR VRTISKA: I really appreciate your...what you're telling me and I understand why you feel like you do and I don't have any bitter feeling about that. I understand what you're doing, but I guess I need to use up my final minute by telling you that I still think and I'll continue to think and our friendship will continue, but I still think that one excellent engineering college in a state of a million and a half people is certainly better than two mediocre. Well anyway, two not so good colleges in the State of Nebraska because that's about all we can support is one excellent college and I think that since it's already established here, I think what the Appropriations Committee done, along with the president of the college, is the proper way