

money. As I understand vacancy savings, and I don't pretend in any way, shape or form to be an expert on this, but vacancy savings comes from the money that an agency, or in this case the University of Nebraska, expects to save by reason of someone who retires or leaves for whatever reason and that position remains unfilled for a period of time until it's filled. So while the vacancy is there, there is some savings of money. We have seen fit to take that into account with a number of the other agencies. It seems to me that it's appropriate, I sense there is a feeling in this body we need to look at some legitimate reductions. I think this is a reduction that can be made with, hopefully, without hurting any program, without raising tuition of students. If the argument is it will raise the tuition of students, I would be interested in knowing how that rationale comes about. I think it's about as painless a change that amounts to a substantial amount of money that I could find to do. And, Senator Chambers, if he's listening, I assume that your wager applies to Senator Vrtiska's amended amendment, so I...I've been encouraging Senator Vrtiska to take the wager because I...I'm serious about the amendment. I think...I've talked to a number of members of the body that are interested in it. I want to have the discussion. If I am wrong in my assessment of the need for this money, I certainly will stand to be enlightened. I am...I am supportive of the work of the university. They have a research farm in my district. I think they contribute tremendously throughout the state in many, many ways, and this is...this is not intended to be any kind of a derogatory amendment but I think it's a legitimate place to look at saving some money. We've asked our state agencies to save money in this area. I think...I think we should ask no less of the University of Nebraska, and I would hope that they could live with that. I think it's a change that we should be able to look seriously at and, hopefully, support. And I anxiously await the comments of the other members of the body. Thank you, Madam Chairperson.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Bromm. On the Bromm amendment for discussion, Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Madam President and members of the Legislature, my light was on to speak to the amendment of Senator Vrtiska's but I'll speak to this one as well. With or without this, I certainly was opposed to the original amendment, as many others. As we talked yesterday, there was a process in place that ought to be completed and continued and supported as far as enhancing