

seriously, and I hope that the university begins to do this, I think we can come up with savings. I have talked with full-time professors at the University of Nebraska at Omaha where they have told me about full departments where people are not publishing, where they are not doing research and where everyone in that department is also not teaching full-time. That, as a taxpayer, hurts and I say that at the same time that I think we have an excellent university system. I think that the majority of our faculty at those universities are very good people who do a very good job and, as a graduate of the University of Nebraska, I got an excellent education, I believe. But I think there's room for some kind of performance...

SPEAKER WITHEM: Time.

SENATOR PREISTER: ...audit and I take this opportunity to raise that issue. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Bromm.

SENATOR BROMM: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, Senator Wehrbein, I wonder if you would yield to a question or two.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR BROMM: Senator Wehrbein, in looking at the...at the budget and trying to figure out if...where there might be any chance to cut, if you were to prioritize what you would least hate...what you...what would be least painful, in your view, to cut, would this be one of the cuts that would be least...least objectionable or least painful? And I'm not...and I know you're against it and I'm not trying to compromise your position on that. I'm trying to find out prioritywise if we were to make a cut, would this be one of the least objectionable?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Categorically, I can say that, yes.

SENATOR BROMM: Okay, thank you. Colleagues, if we are going to not make this cut then I think we should probably pack it up, put our blessing on the budget and go home. I think it is the least painful thing and everybody wants to do that and so do I. I think this is the least disruptive thing we can do. Now I...I tell you if we're going to do anything in the way of accountability and tightening our belts and that kind of thing, I have to make an analogy to private business, and Senator