

Chambers tweaked this for me a little bit. In private business, I do not have the luxury, I do not have the luxury of setting aside an amount of money in my budget that I can...that I can put in the savings account if I happen to go through three months without an employee. I do not have that luxury, I don't. And I'm going to tell you that...that this has all the appearances of a slush fund. It characterizes that in budget discussion sometimes. I've heard...I've heard generalities, this is going to hurt education, this is going to hurt the general things we can do in education. Senator Kristensen had a specific example of adjunct professors. I...I'm trying to track that down and find out if...how much of this money will go to UNK and how that money...if there's a tracking record of how this was used in the past. That's the kind of thing, I think, the Appropriations Committee would know. I would just as soon somebody tell me exactly how this money was used, if it's been in the budget before and how it's expected to be used this time. If they want to budget for adjunct professors then let them make a case for a budget for adjunct professors, but we've got to eliminate some fat somewhere. And I'm going to tell you this money is gone. It's gone. The only question is whether you do it or we let the Governor do it. Now what are we doing here? Are we...are we...are we setting...do...I think the Governor has enough going for him, he doesn't need this. He doesn't need to let us allow him to do this for his political career, so who are we kidding here? This money is gone. Go talk to the University. Go talk to the lobbyists. Go talk to the Governor's office, look at his proposal. This money is gone, folks. Now if you don't want to stand up here and do it then fine. We've made the effort, raised the question, it's nothing against the university. I expect the Lincoln senators to defend the university and defend the money. I expect that. I would like the Appropriations Committee to stand up and tell us that, yes, if you're going to do something, this is maybe...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR BROMM: ...something that can be done with the least harm of anything in the budget, and they still don't have to vote for it. But I'm going to tell you that if we don't do it, it's gone anyway, and I think it's...I think it's a legitimate business decision to make. I think we have some right to expect our educational institutions to begin to operate more and more like businesses. They can't, in some ways, with research and what have you but in this area, with this money, which is a