

know your intentions aren't to... to do that kind of market change to the area, but that's exactly what does happen in this area. And this money, this almost a million dollars has been funding four schools, four schools in select area, four select schools that have managed to get 500,000 dollars, nearly 500,000 dollars a year from the state so they can do what they want to do. And it's not that they're doing back things. I'm not trying to stand here and assert that they're not doing a good job, but what I'm saying is this is state money for a select few schools and I'm not sure that's the kind of policy that I want. I know for sure it's not the kind of policy that I want to back here in the State of Nebraska. And, also, we're having some major problems with funding of K through 12 education in the State of Nebraska. We're having people coming to us about their property tax problems, that they can no longer afford their property taxes, please cut spending. Well, to me, I guess if you're going to prioritize where you want to put the public dollars, the tax funds, do you want to put that into the K through 12 education and fund the preschool education with the private funds or with federal funds? Many of these areas, Head Start Senator Crosby mentioned is a federally funded program. They already get federal tax dollars. I had to say federal funds 'cause it's federal tax dollars. There are no federal funds. They get federal tax dollars for these programs already. This is four schools that have been receiving, in addition to all that federal money, state money. It was a pilot project that was supposed to sunset in 1993, which opened my eyes to the fact that those sunsets on these bills do absolutely nothing if we go ahead and stick the money into appropriations. The actual language of a sunset or pilot project mean nothing. If you read the language that I handed out, it said that it was supposed to... the pilot project was only supposed to go for three years,...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR WITEK: ...three calendar years, so that's not even as good as the paper it's written on because all you have to do is turn to the Appropriations Committee and just go ahead and say, oh, we're not going to put this into just a pilot project anymore, we're... but we... the money will continue. And to give that money to the State Board of Education to decide where they want to put it, are we giving them leeway to put it in any educational area or, you know, are we going to... maybe we could put it into some of the, you know, Internet funding. These are