

does me, as far as what is the best thing to do. There's so many good things that we're trying to do with this bill and the next bill, and there's so many things that I'm scared, literally scared to death of, and it's going to come down, I suspect, that we can't solve all of the problems. It's going to be based on faith, what do you believe will happen, and we go at that point. I understand that. But just remember what our community colleges are, and I do have to laugh because one of the things, when I'm not in the body after the next two years, I am certainly going to try to get back into teaching. Well, I suspect what we do here on these next two bills, they are going to be RIFFING so many in North Platte, that I am going to maybe vote myself out of that job, so that leaves the community colleges. So maybe that's why I'm supporting them so much right now, so I am trying to kiss up so maybe I can get something. But I don't believe that's the motivation behind it. But since some people have been saying that, I'd might as well bring it up on the floor. So if it does help, I would appreciate that if anyone is listening. But we do need to remember who the community colleges serve, what their role and mission is, and many times it's people who have lost their farm, not th...it's a single parent family, that they are trying to get an education, and they can't go off to Lincoln, they can't go off...they have to...to Omaha, they have to stay in their area, and it may take them, sometimes in North Platte, Mid Plains, it has taken people eight years to get a degree, and I have some discussions I need to have with President Johnston of Kearney because we are having a lot of difficulties with them at this point on working with community colleges. Once they got in the university system, attitudes started to change, which I guess I am not surprised. But we need to remember who we are talking about, what people we're talking about, and when you're a single parent family or single person, period, and you don't have the skills and you're trying to get it, you don't have a lot of money to spend. That's what the nature of the community colleges. It is relatively low tuition, and they can go two years to get working on a skill and might even be able to get a degree through telecomm...the telecommunications and the agreements with Chadron or Kearney or the University of Nebraska, wherever. But the bottom line is, when they are stressed on money, the way they have to go is they'll have to increase tuitions. They will have to increase costs, and if it's you and I, that may not be a problem, but for many people they serve it will be a problem, and we need to keep all of these things in mind. The bottom