

It won't fail nearly as bad as to do nothing, that will fail even more. And so I would urge that you not adopt this amendment. True, there may need to be some...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR WARNER: ...but there's no way you can justify at this point until there is a more cost-effective, efficient operation, at least perceived as well as real.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Warner. There are 25 adult UNL French students here. (Introduced their sponsor.) They are all visiting in the north balcony. Will you all stand and be recognized, please. And Senator Hilgert announces that Kathleen Gast is here from Omaha. Kathleen is sitting under the south balcony. Will you stand and be recognized, please. Welcome to the Legislature. Senator Crosby, your light is next.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Madam President and members. And I'm glad that I'm not in the French class, 'cause that's one class I had a lot of trouble with. I can remember, "je vasesm (phonetic) beaucoup." Can you? Yes, of course. We can all remember that one. So right now we're not talking about love though. We're talking about people who have deep-seated hate of paying taxes. That's what we're talking about. And I've said this before, I'll say it again, we have to pay taxes, that's our dues for living in a free society. But I will agree that each entity, subdivision, or whatever can and should always look at their budgets and see if they might do better and more efficiently with fewer dollars. But I did have a conference, I've had conferences with my school board and with teachers and with constituents, and one constituent in particular, who is of course very close to the public schools because he happens to be a school board member, but he's a very good one, he's against 299 and 1114, both; thinks it's Proposition 13 from California all over again, which, in many ways, it is. But Lincoln Public Schools' budget just...so many of you like to put things in the record, I'll put this in the record. Lincoln Public Schools' budget, in round figures, \$170 million; 35 million of that goes for special ed, and there's no way to control nor limit that amount. So you have 135 million left for the budget, other than special ed; 110 million goes for teachers' salaries, that does not include administration. So we have about 25 million left. He thinks, his estimate and what the board has been working