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been...we had been overly optimistic in the amount of lead time that it takes, not only to merge schools or consolidate schools or unify schools, but the issue of merging, unifying, and consolidating communities'...anywhere from the athletic team to the debate team, and all of the details that people work out. We had a good program in place, have a good program in place, a program in place that has a greater demand than what the resources were to cover the earned incentive payments that were entitled and depended upon, for that matter, by the schools that were entering into these agreements. I think that before this evening is up, before the next few minutes is up, hopefully, we will have a solution to the issue presented to us. Sometimes it's interesting how when there is a great demand, that the solutions do in fact rise to meet that demand, whether or not we are able to see them clearly when we begin the conversation on an issue. I guess it proves that many hands make for better work. And this is one of those issues that we are going to leave, I think, this evening, with having done, in fact, better work, work that will enable a number of districts in the state of Nebraska to continue in their unification and merger plans, will enable them not only to retain, in some cases, their instructional work force, but certainly to provide a higher quality, more varied curriculum for the students in their schools, particularly those curriculums that exist at the high school level. I have in my district one...several schools that are currently not in merger-consolidation talks per se, but they're having a very difficult time sorting through what they're able to afford to present as curriculum when you move beyond the very basic presentations that we require of schools to provide for the students in the different classes that exist in high schools in Nebraska. I don't know how long it will take before we have reached the end of this...not kick, but this trend to larger area school districts,...

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: One minute.

SENATOR COORDSEN: ...not necessarily those with more children enrolled. We have some very difficult problems in trying to address both affordability and sustainability in much of Nebraska that are not privileged to be part of a growth area. This program that we currently have, that we've had in place, as I've said before, for a number of years, three or so, in fact,