

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

March 18, 2004 LB 1089

is retreat to a corner. And when you're in the corner, the harassment worsens. And when you react predictably, then you are the bad person and you become...

SENATOR JANSSEN: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...the justification for having built that monster factory in the first place. I think that is so wrong that the system of staffing these penal institutions has to be reviewed and revamped, but the only way that is going to happen is if the Legislature shows that it is serious about bringing a change. And we took a step last session by saying, get rid of the LCC. Well, now an attempt is being made to put the money back, and I shall resist that, but I don't have an amendment drafted and so I'm just discussing some things now about the budget that I have a problem with. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Johnson.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Mr. President, members of the body, I've sat here and listened throughout the day as to the discussions and so on, and I jotted down a few notes. One of the things that I hear all the time is people tell me to cut, cut, cut. And I finally ask them, cut what? They tell me get rid of half of the lazy people, those state employees. Tell them I haven't met any. Raise taxes. Which ones? We talk here about the intergovernmental transfers. Perhaps this isn't the time to talk about this, but sometime is and that is that I don't think that we can stick to just these routines. I think we have to look beyond this. We have to look at changes in how we do things, the systems, not the people. Let's talk about a few of the things that we might look into. I don't mean to sound like I'm against community colleges. I'm not. They're valuable to this state, invaluable to this state. But what we have is this here in the city of Lincoln. There are, at Southeast Community College, per credit hour the cost is \$50 per credit hour. At UNL it's \$136 per credit hour. You can take courses that are transferable from the community college to the university system. This is like selling television sets for \$1,500 per television set at 13th and Vine, and selling the same television set for \$500 at 86th and O Street. Am I talking about just a