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followed by Senator Raikes and six others. Senator Jensen.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Senator Raikes, would you respond to a question?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes, would you yield?

SENATOR RAIKES: Yes.

SENATOR JENSEN: This last year we linked, I believe, 85 hospitals in the state of Nebraska up with a communications system. Took some money from the PSC that they had allowed for that purpose. And so we are linking those 85 hospitals together in a hub system for telemedicine, telepsychiatry and also learning, distance learning. We also have a university system that again links all of its campuses together throughout the system. We have a provider network. I know there are several different providers that are hooked together, Lutheran Family Services and others. And now...well, we've already had this other system that now we need to improve upon. Do we ever look at what is there and try to bring everything together under one system, and can that be done? And certainly, like I said, I technology-challenged, but it would seem to me that we are spending a lot of dollars in a lot of different areas. Can they be brought together in some collaboration and save some dollars by doing that. And that would certainly be my question to you.

SENATOR RAIKES: Senator Jensen, I...it's certainly my hope that we can. And the way we're trying to approach that with the task force is to include, for example, the Nebraska Information Technology Commission, which has broad authority to look at the overall use and connectivity in the state. I would also suggest that whatever has been done in the health-care system probably could act as a pattern, if you will, for what might be undertaken in terms of school connectivity. The other thing which I think is very important, and you touched on, is the higher ed system. It's becoming, I think, more and more important that the higher ed sectors, really all of them, be able to communicate via distance learning, or e-learning, with juniors and seniors in high school, to provide enhanced course work, dual credit courses, and that sort of thing, so that...I