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FLOOR DEBATE

April 6, 2005      LB 38

Nebraska.      We have good work ethics. But we need trained work forces. And the way we're trying to overhaul our incentive plans in Nebraska, this is very, very important to have community college as part of it. Because if a company comes in and this is the type of training we need for our employees, community college can adapt almost immediately to that. They can come up with a curriculum to satisfy the needs of those employers. So that's another thing that's very, very important. And as you've heard the speaker before me, the levy would be increased for a half cent for the next two years, to help with our base. And that would amount to about \$5 on a \$100,000 home...\$50,000 home, rather; and...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR ENGEL: ...about \$10 on \$100,000 home. So it's not a great expense. It's...20 counties have to...they represent 20 counties up there. The college represents 20 counties...20 different counties. And they'll have to sell this to the counties. But I think it's going to be an easy sale, because everybody up there realizes the importance of an education. With that, I would request that you advance LB 38 to next file. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Engel. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Flood, followed by Senator Don Pederson and others.

SENATOR FLOOD: Thank you, Mr. President, members. If we take this entire situation we have today back to 1998, when LB 269 became law, Northeast Community College had prided itself on keeping property taxes very low. In fact, through the early part of the nineties, in the mid-nineties, we were very proud of that. And in 1997, as Northeast saw a 33 percent increase in students, the board of governors at Northeast Community College wanted to maintain a very low property tax reliance base. What's happened since then? Well, as LB 269 went into effect, that gave us an artificially low base. And we've been trying to play catch-up ever since. That's why we're here today. I admire the board of governors for trying to keep property taxes low. Unfortunately, the formula that we have doesn't