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County, it seems like there's sometimes an invisible wall, glass wall that exists from Wayne County and "cross-secting" up to the South Dakota and the Iowa border. People don't seem to drive to Norfolk to go to community college when you're in They've got opportunities in Iowa. Dakota County. So the board, several years ago, developed a community college relationship with Western Iowa Technical Community College, where we sent 500 Nebraska students over to WITCC to receive an education, and Northeast Community College, out of its own difference between in-state and for the budget, paid out-of-state tuition. That amounted, last year, to \$877,000. They have now discontinued that program, for two reasons. Number one, the tuition is escalating at a rate that Northeast is uncomfortable with. And number two, they need that money to put into programs on the Nebraska side of the border, so that Nebraskans going to school in Nebraska can attend Northeast Community College in Dakota County, and you can come from the counties surrounding. That's a little explanation of why we saw a 9 percent drop. Now, the half cent does not fix the funding formula. But there's a good faith obligation, in my opinion, placed on Northeast Community College. If they're allowed to do this, they have to go out and make it work. They have to find students that need services, and serve those needs. We need to find young people and people of all ages that are ready to go to college, and provide them the education so they become a nurse, or that they can get a degree in business, or they can be trained for a specific employer, which our community college in northeast Nebraska has done a wonderful job of. I just want to stress, this isn't going to build an elaborate campus. It's going to open up another facility, another opportunity to people in Dakota County and those surrounding counties, so that they, too, can get a college education. And like I said, a lot of these people are first-time college students, first in their And let's keep the momentum, and let's do that. then let's go back and address what is unequal from the start. I think that's why we're here today. I return the balance of my time to the Chair. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Flood. Senator Heidemann.

SENATOR HEIDEMANN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback, fellow members.