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just builds on itself. They can't grow out of it. They can't fix it themselves. We're locked into a problem that only gets worse. The needs are growing dramatically in northeast Nebraska, and especially up in South Sioux and in Dakota County. I've seen where the majority of those students are going into Iowa. And then they're less likely to come back here. We've had a tremendous cost shift. Iowa treats their community colleges differently than we do in Nebraska. We subsidize to the point where we try to keep it around 20, and Northeast is 27 percent of the cost goes through tuition. Iowa does it a different way. They go up to almost 50 percent of the cost of their schools are through tuition. So the fact is that when we tried to serve those Nebraska students in the way that we're serving students all over the state, in the same way, the only way we think we could do it was to have them go to the next community college in Iowa. And then when we paid that tuition difference, we made up what Iowa doesn't do for their community colleges, because of the fact that the tuition there is so dramatically higher than Nebraska's tuition. If we don't serve those students in northeast Nebraska, then they're going to have to travel to other parts of Nebraska, or pay that higher tuition into Iowa. It's a segment of the population that's growing dramatically. I think that South Sioux is one of the fastest growing parts of our state. We need to make sure that we serve people equitably across the board, and we need to fix this. And this is a good solution. This is one that, even though it costs more in property taxes for northeast Nebraska, it will allow the formula to be readjusted over time, and make it a more equitable situation for students in Nebraska. It doesn't solve the whole problem. I think even after the two years it's not going to be as equitable as I'd like to see it. But at least it makes a big step in that direction. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR JANSSEN PRESIDING

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

SENATOR JOHNSON: Mr. President, members of the delegation, first, like so many before me, I do believe in community colleges. And they have strengths in certain areas that we just cannot do without. I also am going to support the passage of