

will cost \$100,000. We've got a high risk pregnancy bill that has been pushed for four years and we can't seem to find the money for. We've got additional things each one of you have big constituencies for that have come in and asked for support--voc-ed education, we just...Senator Nelson and I have a bill on that. You've got a myriad of programs that have been sitting there for years, in some cases...I've been here nine years, nine years they've been trying to get money for, with people wanting to see something happen we never seem to have money for, and here is \$500,000 for a program and a project that wasn't even pushed. I have some questions about the need. I think that if they have the money they will put it to good use. They will bring in federal monies. I'm sure that the need for cancer research is always there. I'm just saying that we ought to take the earmarking out of the bill, free up the \$500,000. Hopefully, I hope we will eventually pass a bill and then those resources ought to be fought for on the floor and through the appropriations process and in other efforts, and may the best man win in a sense, may the best person win, Senator Smith, slip of the tongue, but anyway, in terms of the money. And I just simply would echo what I heard that night which is that I think there are higher priorities but, even if there aren't, at least this ought to fight through the process, as everybody else is, to get money for different projects. So I would strongly urge you to adopt this amendment, by Senator Miller and I, to strike the earmarking.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Vard Johnson.

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I just wanted you to know that the Revenue Committee, in hearing LB 730, heard other tobacco product tax bills brought to us by Senator Nelson and Senator Remmers, and one of their aspirations was that money could go to the Eppley Cancer Institute in Omaha. So, as a result of that, and since we took some of their thoughts and concepts and blended them into this tobacco bill, we also blended into the bill the Eppley Institute money.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Nelson, followed by Senators Miller and Hefner.

SENATOR NELSON: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I had hoped that we really wouldn't probably get into an auction of this. I certainly do respect Senator Wesely's, and I know that Senator Miller's views that he will express, we have talked about this. When I originally proposed my smokeless tobacco bill, I put in