

April 10, 1979

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happen now, but they were going to have solar energy used to heat and...the water in the building, I believe, and that's all part of this new direction that I think the State of Nebraska has taken in developing alternative energy sources. The problem is this. We put in the money. We build the facility, but we haven't completed the project. There needs to be some changes in the construction of the solar energy unit to improve it, to test it better. There needs to be a finalized report developed. We need to take the data we've collected. We've got plenty of data now to make some conclusions as far as the potential for solar energy development in the state, particularly in terms of state buildings, but we have the data, but we don't have the person to put together that information, and so we need to add this amendment, earmark it for this purpose, and then we will see completed a project that we started two years ago, and which I think was a very positive step in the right direction. But I feel if we do not pass this amendment, we've virtually, in my estimation, thrown close to \$200,000 down the drain. It seems sort of penny-wise and pound-foolish to me not to earmark and amend the University budget in the fashion that I have proposed in this amendment. I'll just read what the major intent of this amendment would provide. This work will test conclusion...this is for the solar energy project itself, its goals. This work will test conclusions derived from the original project and provide evaluation of specific state building designs for the incorporation of solar domestic water systems, study cost effectiveness of new design alternatives, and analyze the effect of conventional fuel price structures. Essentially then, by just adding the \$36,500 which has been proposed, we will have in this state some firm data and information on which to base some decisions for the future in terms of solar energy development and its use in state buildings. Not many of you are paying much attention to what I have to say about this issue. I think at a future date when the utility bills continue to skyrocket, when you're called before your constituents and they ask you what are you trying to do to do something about the energy problem in this state, when they put you to the fire to come up with some leadership in the area of energy problems, you can point to this project if you adopt this amendment. If you don't, I think you ought to be called to task for wasting some tax dollars, and for misleading the public because I think we've shown some leadership and we ought to follow up on that effort and complete the project.

SPEAKER MARVEL PRESIDING

SPEAKER MARVEL: One minute.

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