

the most important tools and sacred tools that a Governor has. We have allowed the veto in this state to function as a second legislative body, a second house of government. It no longer is that sacred tool used with the deliberate purpose of stopping something knowing that that Governor has to be held accountable for his actions. It has lost that meaning in the previous eight years. I want to reestablish that meaning. That's why, as I say, my inclination is strongly to vote against any veto override. They who veto would be held accountable for that action. We who pass them are going to be held accountable when we pass them. If we establish it this year, the relation and separation between this branch of government, the legislative, and that branch of government, the administrative, the executive, I think will be reestablished. The veto will be used sparingly, cautiously, intelligently, knowing full well in advance that if you veto you take the blame, or credit, for that action. As I say, in past years vetoes were overridden. The University knew it in advance. Worked a deal with the Governor. State employees and everybody else did. You veto this, we get the override. You win all the points over here. It became a pure political device. It is more sacred than that and should be used more carefully than that. These vetoes that were given will have certain clear cut consequences in the coming year. 627, state aid, all of them. Those consequences good or bad should fall on those who chose to do whatever they chose to do on this, and that is why, as I say, I am personally going to vote against any veto overrides. I would encourage you to do that. I would encourage we reestablish the sacredness of the veto and the accountability... the accountability of government.

SENATOR MARSH: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I am sure all of you know that I came back to be here this day for the purpose of helping to override vetoes. Some of you know and some of you don't know that I was elected a year ago to represent the State of Nebraska as one of the six lay delegates to the United Methodist General Conference. It meets once every four years. But I am here today and I would like to explain why I feel you should carefully consider what has been said by Senator Warner and what others will say regarding the overrides of the proposed bills. I am sorry to have to say the veto was not used sparingly this year, and was not used cautiously and judiciously when it was used against some agencies and not used against some agencies. Who will be hurt if we do not override? The hard working state employee, the employee where the beginning salaries already are more than ten percent below starting salaries in a comparable position.