

your hands so we can wish you "good afternoon"? Okay. And also in the North balcony from Senator Howard Peterson's District 26 students and six adults from A.B. Newell School, Grand Island, Nebraska. Joyce Ziemba is the teacher and they are in the North balcony. Will you show us where you are? Right up here. The motion is to advance LB 559 to E & R for review. Senator Beutler and then Senator Pirsch.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, Senator Warner, a couple more questions, if I may. Again just for my general...just to get the general concept clearly in mind, if, for example, we are interested in the percentage increase from the 1980-81 appropriation with regard to the general fund or let's talk more specifically about the agencies covered by 559, we would look over and see what we are appropriating this year and, as I understand it, the overall percentage for the whole general fund is somewhere in the vicinity of eight or nine percent, is that correct or do you have some sort of estimate on that?

SENATOR WARNER: Again, Senator Beutler, it depends on what you want to use for a base in which to calculate the percentage increase and I tend to shy away from it a little bit because you can arrive at whatever percentage you want depending on the base. The base that we are using would be last year's, for this kind of a question, is that last year's base of general fund appropriations plus this year's deficiency bill which would be a proper part of the 80-81 appropriation plus the amount of funds that we made up because of the revenue sharing funds that were lost that traditionally have been treated as general fund money and then the Nebraska Capital Construction Fund which is the five cent cigarette tax, adding those items together times a seven percent figure would fall within the...slightly above what the committee has authorized or is recommending to the body, would allow that \$4.2 million in addition for A bills. Now I can come up with a different percentage if you use a different base.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, I understand what you are saying. The ultimate question I am getting to is that the figures we come up with today you would have to add on to that whatever deficiency appropriations we come up with next year in order to get a truer picture of what the percentage increase is from one year to the next.

SENATOR WARNER: It would be appropriate so, you know, the current year appropriation, total appropriation, you could add the two and a half million, for example, in the deficiency bill this year to truly represent the general fund