

too. They have got to come up with, what, twenty-five or thirty, some percent of the money and a school could get up to a \$100,000 for a school to do weatherization. We have study after study, state, federal. The study is done by the Energy Office on these buildings showing that if we will spend the money to weatherize them we will have a return on investment of anywhere from 20%, 30%, 40% per year on this money. So that is where the bulk of the money would go, immediate weatherization of a bunch of schools to start saving energy and saving tremendous costs and we are saying, if you are going to do this, you put up your money, we will give you some of this money from the fund. You don't have to worry about the lid. It is going to be outside the lid so you don't have to use that as your excuse. The next thing we are doing with the money, we are using \$200,000 of that money for the State Energy Office. They had \$3,000,000 of federal funds last year. I repeat, they had \$3,000,000. They are going to get \$38,000 this year so you see that is a cut of \$2,962,000. All we are giving them is a basic survival amount so we can keep our energy office going so we can keep the monitoring work and our regulatory work and coordinating work with the gas company, the utilities, so on and so forth. I am sure they would like a lot more but this is about kind of what we arrived at. We are using 100 thousand for the Nebraska Solar Office. This also has lost all its federal funds and will be closed down. We are going to keep that in existence with it. We left in the bill the solar tax credit thing, renewable energy thing, devices. Otherwise everything else in that original bill is gone. Now I believe those of you who have taken the time to check have found that the oil and gas industry which previously opposed the legislation would have no opposition, in fact, probably it does support it. I don't know if you have talked to Mr. Brown or some of the others. In this form, this amended form I am offering we do solve the Energy Office problems, at least for a year. We do, more important than anything else, money that is now, the four or five million dollars, which is now going in and just never being used except being invested and returning five or six or seven percent and letting inflation wipe out, we are taking that and we are spending it immediately so we can get twenty, thirty percent return on it in the form of insulation, capital savings. I urge adoption of the amendment. It is a modest effort at maintaining our efforts in energy conservation and programs and it corrects some problems we have with the way funds are spent now. I repeat again, I know that Senator Fowler and Senator Wesely probably feel it does not go far enough. I would like to go a lot further myself,