

been asked to present it at the best of my ability to the Legislature today for your approval. LR 25 is a resolution that is something similar to what we did pass last year. For those of you who were not with us last year, the incoming senators, we approved a resolution for a capital facilities improvement at the University of Nebraska Medical Center at their Omaha location. That amount was about \$27 million. Since that time there have been some changes and some expansions and some updates of the project. So that now before you today you have a resolution that has been amended, or not actually amended, they are asking for a new resolution and kind of a scrapping of the old one to reflect the more updated situation in the amount of \$48 million, total. About \$7 million of that is for a parking garage and about \$41 million is for the new facility. The purpose of the facility improvement is about threefold and I think that many of you have had some information given to you on this and you've talked with people, so I don't want to spend a lot of time talking about things that you already know. I would rather explain very briefly what the project does to kind of summarize and then hopefully if you have any specific comments or questions that we can address those in due time. First and foremost of the project is the expansion and creation of a whole new ambulatory care area and that is the major part of the project. The idea behind the need for the improvements of the ambulatory care facilities is the major change in care to patients and providing health care to people in the State of Nebraska and all over this country to more of an outpatient basis. Things have changed dramatically in the last ten years. Of course, they have changed dramatically in the last many years, but basically what is happening is we are being able to treat patients, treat citizens more in an out care facility than we had in the past, where it used to be, and I think one of the examples used to me in some of the discussions was the idea that it used to be for a hernia operation you would go into the hospital and spend two weeks in the hospital and have your hernia operation, and that hasn't been that many years ago. As a matter of fact, my father went through that and today most hernia operations, or at least many hernia operations are done on an outpatient basis where you simply check in, you have the surgery and you are released and, of course, you still have to go through a lot of procedures but it's not the way it used to be. So the shift in demand has been for more outpatient care and they call that ambulatory care, I think.

PRESIDENT: Excuse me. (Gavel.) Could we have it quieter so