

a process and a structure to guide all future planning efforts between the two hospitals and I commend Chancellor Andrews and the staff at the UNMC. They have worked very hard, very diligently and I certainly appreciate the members of the Appropriations Committee in advancing LR 25 to the floor for the full legislative approval and I believe Chancellor Andrews also made the statement that without the approval of the Legislature not only will this extended project be discontinued, but the project that was started last year with the resolution that I introduced last year. I think it is vitally important to not only the State of Nebraska, but to the patients and the people that need health care in this state that UNMC be granted this extended resolution. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Warner, please, followed by Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I did want to point one thing out because some of the material that has been received has indicated, and I think it has been mentioned on the floor that the increase in cost per patients for the facility was going to be \$47.14 on a day I believe. What the rest of the story is, however, in this instance is that that is based on a projection if the facility was completely paid for by 1993. That is not the proposal. The proposal is one of which extends this over a 20-year period. Currently, hospital rates, when they average at the Med Center, are on an average slightly below the average in the area. So they are not excessive, and when you make the addition which I indicated earlier, that there projection is that costs are going to go up about 5 percent on the average in the foreseeable future at least. It is only 1.5 percent of that 5 percent that will be attributable to the addition of the facility. So it would not be accurate to assume that the cost of the facility has an immediate increase of \$47 a day because that is not the proposal before you. The proposal before you is the approval of the bonds which average cost increase and the figure that runs in my mind is around \$225 is the average cost so roughly you're talking 5 percent of that figure rather than the cost that is shown here as the expected growth. Obviously, 5 percent of a larger figure each year, whether the building is done or not, becomes a bigger figure each year. I don't want to get into that argument but, nevertheless, we are not talking about a one-time sudden jump of \$47.