

project. I can tell you honestly without malice, without any kind of a "I told you so" attitude, that Clarkson is interested in cooperating with UNMC on operating rooms. Dr. Andrews very honestly told me they hope to be able to put a walkway to Clarkson to utilize some of the 350 surplus rooms which Clarkson has and that is a commendable idea. Does it then not also make some kind of sense that while they are doing that, that they try to maximize the ability to cooperate with Clarkson Hospital in the development of additional operating rooms if at all possible. Clarkson Hospital needs additional operating rooms. There is no reason why, in their estimation, as I understand from my discussion with them, that those new operating rooms cannot be constructed so that both hospitals can make use of them. There is also the need for additional cooperation in the Family Practice Unit and we ought to encourage that at this time. If we approve the resolution as it reads today, ladies and gentlemen, we close the door, we close the door on that aspect of it, not because it is impossible to do so, ladies and gentlemen, but because there isn't any reason for the institution to continue to talk because we have once again given the blank check to UNMC. I made that statement last year. Read the history. Senator Warner said you have to judge the future from the past and he is absolutely correct when you talk about medical cost increases. By the same token, go back and read the history of what we talked about last year. Last year we were standing here talking about a \$29 million project. Today we are talking about a \$47 million project. I concur with what Senator Haberman says. I think they probably need the parking garage. I want to add also, that this State Capitol needs parking space. The Capitol parking situation is also horrendous, Senator Haberman. We haven't taken very many steps to solve that but that is another issue. I don't want to drag it in here. The point I want to make is this. I do not want to pick the project apart piece by piece, stall by stall, room by room, door by door. That is not my agenda. My agenda is to follow up with what I told you last year which proved to be somewhat accurate and which now we are called upon to rectify by the approval of the resolution much expanded from last year. I do not think, very frankly, that this will be the last of it. I would suggest that maybe next year or the year thereafter we will be called upon once again to rubber-stamp an idea which may have to be at that time valid, would hope so, but which we'll then be called upon for additional expansion and modification. I'm suggesting, ladies and gentlemen, that there needs to be dialogue, there needs to be concentrated effort, and when we are using this