

mistake this year if we do not adopt the amendment and I think that that will compound the error as we proceed with this project. It may be an exercise in futility on my part to offer the amendment, but six months from now, a year from now, someone is going to say why didn't we do this in a different manner.

PRESIDENT: (Gavel.) Please, let's hold it down so we can hear the speaker. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Ladies and gentlemen, it is always a mystery to me that if we talk about a \$50,000 appropriation on this floor, 47 or eight of us can get up and speak on it and speak in glowing terms and with great eloquence. We talk about a \$50 million project and we can't even listen when someone else is talking, no reference to myself because you probably figured out you know what I'm going to say and it's not worth listening to. The point I want to make is this. If you do not follow the procedure I have outlined, we have then said, go ahead, build the project, do not consult with Clarkson, do not try to cut costs, do as you please and you have the rubber stamp approval of the Nebraska Legislature to do so.

PRESIDENT: (Gavel.) Please, let's hold it down. I don't seem to be getting through to you. It is too noisy. We can't hear the speakers. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, thank you again. I think it's important that each of you ask yourself before you vote on this resolution, do you understand the resolution? I wonder how many of us have read it.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: I wonder how many of us really believe everything that is in that resolution. If so, then vote against my amendment. If, on the other hand, you believe that it is our proper responsibility to approve the method of funding and nothing else, then I think that you should vote for my amendment. If you vote for the amendment as it stands, ladies and gentlemen, you have already approved the project in advance of the Certificate of Need committee and it would make logical sense then, ladies and gentlemen, that we disband the CON committee, because if we don't need to use it on a University of Nebraska project, it is totally unfair to expect other hospitals, other medical institutions to have to abide by the