

help them with half the cost, they come up with the other half. And with that, I seriously ask the adoption of this amendment and has the General Fund pay for half of the cost of this mistake.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, sir. Discussion on the Moore amendment, Senator Hall, followed by Senators Warner and Wehrbein.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Mr. President, I rise in support of Senator Moore's amendment even though it is clearly only on the basis I guess a half a loaf or a half a building is better than none, Senator Moore, because it is extremely interesting that we find ourselves in this situation I guess. Twelve years have gone by, approximately 13, and this year when we have the money we deal with the issue. It is also extremely interesting that there haven't been any heads that have rolled. We had one of our colleagues who for the last week has been up on trial in Omaha because she inadvertently signed a couple petitions, felonious acts, but yet here we're dealing with a building that...value of \$3 million plus to build, cost to repair of \$3 million plus and we are looking at just taking care of it. Contractors have been involved, consultants, state employees and we are just going to take care of it. It is extremely interesting to me that it is not as big a problem because it happens to be within the university system. If this happened in any other, I think, area of government with a city, county, even another area of state government, I think that there would be serious ramifications that would come out of that, but because it's a building within the university system, and please don't misunderstand me, it's no fault, I think, of those people who are in charge that the building was built the way it was, but there has to be some blame that has to be laid at someone's feet for this situation we're currently in. And to just basically turn our backs and say that we are going to take care of the building, we're going to take care of the problem so that it goes away and we're going to pay for it, is extremely interesting. I wonder what we would have done four years ago when we didn't have the money to basically maintain the budget, when we had to cut the university, what kind of discussion we would have had on this issue, who might have taken some heat on whether or not we were to have footed the bill for the restructuring of this building. It is something that I think all of the people ought to know about, not just the members of the Legislature, but I think everybody ought to pay attention to