

Board to look into the situation, spend some dollars, do some tests that haven't been done, do some testing that has not been done, look at those results and make the determination whether the money whether needs to be spent or not. If you're convinced that the Appropriations Committee recommendation is the right one, the worst thing you're doing is delaying by six months. I'm willing to spend six months out of the time before that this building has to operate to be sure that we're spending \$2.7 million properly and correctly. The old issue, as it was debated this morning, was your opportunity expenditure here was either spend \$2.7 million and be sure or you don't spend \$2.7 million and the building may fall down around your shoulders. Okay, I grant it, that's a pretty risky sort of decision to make. It's not the decision Senator Hall and I are asking you to make here now at this point. What we're asking you to do is put spending \$2.7 million that we may not need to spend versus the inconvenience of perhaps having to find other facilities to teach the pharmacy program in for six months or a year's time. I find a number of things about this very, very interesting. I find, for instance, the attitude of the Med Center and the university system on this whole issue, it's kind of like their...their mouths are wide open, that the Legislature is actually standing here asking them to justify how they're spending their money. They're asking...we're asking them to prove to us that you need it done and it's like, gosh, this has never happened before, we don't really understand what's going on. I think that's our responsibility as a Legislature and we ought to take that responsibility seriously. I also...Senator Hannibal, I very much appreciate, you are a man of good faith and I know full well that you're wrestling with this issue individually and you put forward a proposal in good faith and it's probably a lot better than doing nothing. I prefer this approach. But I'll tell you what concerns me about that, Senator Hannibal, is...not that you haven't thought about it before, because you haven't been wrestling with this issue before, but why hasn't this been done?

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR WITHEM: You know, why haven't those folks that have seen competing numbers, competing studies, competing projections, why haven't they taken the initiative to pull together the various numbers and submit them to an independent source and look at them? I don't understand why we have to do that type of lay work for the Legislature. Again, I am not