

followed by Senators Warner and Hefner. Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. Speaker and members, you know it's, as Senator Warner has known for a number of years, it's never fun to get up and argue against some of these things, but the fact of the matter is you simply can't do everything. If you look at what we're talking about here, in Program 619, of the Department of Economic Development, it's a program that basically has two things in it, the Wild West Arena out in North Platte, and the SAC Museum in Bellevue. Now if you...The revenue that the state...estimated revenue that the state is going to get from the Wild West Arena in '88-89 is about \$12,000, whereas the estimated revenue we get from the SAC Museum is going to be about \$350,000 but obviously because of the attendance. Senator Bernard-Stevens, I honestly do not know the history behind the Wild West Arena, even though I'm inclined to think that back in 1972 there was probably a rather loud voice in the North Platte area that somehow got this incorporated in the Department of Economic Development. But the fact of the matter is, you know, Senator Bernard-Stevens said it absolutely correct, Nebraskaland Days is a statewide celebration we all enjoy in, but the \$40,000 that he's asking for here is basically a capital construction request in the town of North Platte for the Nebraskaland Days celebration. And I think all of us have to sit here and just make a judgment in our own mind whether or not \$40,000 should come out of the General Fund, or whether or not some ways we can try and use some Cash Fund, or we work with the City of North Platte on funding something, and is this the state's responsibility to do this for Nebraskaland Days. That is a question that I guess, you know, I'm having trouble answering myself. But I think you have to remember that we're talking General Fund appropriations, this is in the Department of Economic Development. You know you have 2.4...we're already recommended a \$2.4 million appropriation for operations, \$2.2 million appropriation for aid in the department, and this is something that was not a priority for the department. And I guess as I sit here, right now, I'm having trouble coming up with support for a...General Fund support for a Wild West Arena out in North Platte. And I guess for a variety of reasons I urge the body to oppose it. I'm not questioning the merits or whether or not the project has to be done, I'm questioning whether or not it should be paid for by General Fund tax dollars.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Warner.