

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, again this is one of the requests that was not considered by the committee for the simple reason that there was no request made, that I'm aware of at least. But another factor in this, I believe, that this arena, by June 30, 1991, is either to be leased or sold or something be done with it, at least from its current arrangement. And if that is the case, it seems to me until there is something firm as to what is to be done with the facility, it ought not to add repair money that the odds are could not be recovered. In the event that there is a firm plan and what the future should be for its operation, then I can see where it may be necessary to do some upkeep in order to dispose of the property, because someone wouldn't want to acquire it with some maintenance work apparently to be done. But nevertheless until that is firm, it seems to me that this cash funded operation, as it was intended to be and has been for a number of years, probably ought to remain that way. Again, if the problem was severe, it would seem to me that certainly it could have been known about last fall and the request could have been made at that time, as it obviously is not something that came up at the last moment, if it needs to be sandblasted and painted. So I'd urge the body not to support this particular amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hefner, please. Thank you. Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. Members of the body, many of us do not go to the Appropriations Committee hearings. Many of us do not know the information that the Appropriations Committee has received. Many of us do not know if that information is indeed correct. I'm beginning to doubt, in this particular case, whether the information they received was correct, or is correct. First of all, it is not going to be sold within the next two years. It is not going to be sold next year. In fact what has been done is an arrangement has been made for a 20-year lease, of which the landlord is responsible for the maintenance. And guess who the landlord is, Senator Moore? The landlord is the State of Nebraska. I'm sorry, I wish the landlord were North Platte, I wish the landlord were some private industry, but it is not, it is the State of Nebraska that is the landlord, and it will be for the next 20 years. And no, Senator Warner, it didn't just pop up that sandblasting needed to be done. It just didn't decide it had to