

really just looked at the calculations from the Daly Company. They concurred with those calculations so it should give you a little more feeling of comfort if you're already going to support this. But they did not take the independent evaluation of the Holland numbers that I had...that I had anticipated that they would be taking. Another concern I have that I found out, and this is probably my fault for not knowing this before, but one of the things that I had kind of assumed that we would go ahead and pass 812 and there would still be a possibility for discussions about what is the best way of bringing about repairs to the Pharmacy College. I found out that the contract is already signed. It's a done deal. The Board of Regents has already entered into agreement with Leo Daly to propose this design and so that there is no...once we vote for this, there is no possibility of members of this Legislature, members of the general public for impact. I did hear from some people, and I'm not saying this to be alarmist, I'm just reporting it, but I did hear from some people that understand engineer...structural engineering, are structural engineers that there is a question as to whether or not the proposed design, the proposed repair by Daly is, in fact, going to improve the situation, and that had not been brought to light before and had not been brought to the attention of the university officials that I visited with. We have since re...we have received...and I don't know if all senators received this, I did, a letter from the Nebraska Chapter of the American Society of Civil Engineers, engineers in the City of Omaha, who are interested in this because they, rightfully or wrongfully so, think it is, you know, bringing their profession into question, are saying that we really ought to take a look at it. Their contention is the building is obviously safe or the university would not be putting students in that building. It's been scaffolded. It's been shored up, that there isn't any real emergency and any real rush to judgment, that we could move forward in it. The emergency that is being defined, as I understand it, is the possibility of losing six months out of the use of this building if we don't get started right away and get students back into it by next January. Admittedly, that's an inconvenience but I don't know if bringing...spending \$2.8 million of taxpayers' money, I don't know if that's enough of an emergency to warrant the immediate expenditure of \$2.8 million of taxpayers' money. I also understand that the physical signs of deterioration on this building are not as great as we may have been led to believe. There is questions as to whether the footings are proper, whether they were properly designed. This building has stood