

outmoded facility for so many years. I really believe that the more you find out about the Fine Arts Department at UN-O, the more you will believe that it is a tremendously positive influence on our community. And in this time of great need for this kind of instruction, I hope that you will see fit to keep this particular project in the budget. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Hannibal.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Mr. Speaker and members, I rise to oppose the amendment. And I don't want to take a lot of time because it appears people have their minds made up on this issue. To augment was Senator Ashford and Senator Warner have said, the program...the building has been on line since 1972. It was originally supposed to be part two of the original building that was built 18, 19 years ago. It is designed to bring all facets of the fine arts, including the dramatic arts, visual arts and so on together. It will affect about 2,000 students that are affected by fine arts programs. It will also affect faculty, and by the way of augmenting what Senator Ashford has said, that most of the faculty that work in the Fine Arts Department at UN-O are also members of the arts in the community, those that teach music, play in the symphony, those that teach graphic arts also work in the...with the communities and those that work in the...that teach in the dramatic arts are also involved in community productions. And those kinds of productions and those kinds of symphonies and the performing arts, they, too, are statewide and they have been out to your communities over the years as kind of a good blend between the community, the private sector, the community for arts and the educational community. I hope that you will reject the amendment. It's a building that has been on line for quite some time. Senator Warner did point out that the request came to the committee at \$13 million. What he did not point out to you and he also said we went...we did drop it by \$2 million, we're hoping that we can come up with some kind of funds, outside sources to do that kind of thing. What he did not tell you was actually the facility came back in after the initial need statement, in the form of a program statement came back in at \$17 million and so really what I'm going to be looking for within the community and within the corporate community is to try to come up with some kind of funds to bring it up to the first class facility, I think, that it deserves to be and that's not a \$2 million endeavor, that's more like about a \$6 million endeavor. But I'm going to try to work with the officials and work with the corporate community and