

and turn it into some sort of a tourist center. Now you might hear later on that these bids, some of them, cannot be accepted for one reason or another. However, the zoning laws can be changed. So I would say they are viable bids. Now we started this whole process with the Historical Society was to do a study on this issue, and when they did their study, they are supposed to spend \$35,000 to see if we wanted to make a historical building. Then we went to the Game and Parks, and they made us an estimate of what it would cost to maintain this building, and it was somewhere near \$100,000 a year to maintain it as a state park, plus another two or three hundred thousand to bring it up to snuff so it would be a state park. The statutes state that you cannot have an urban state park. This is only around five acres and they want to make it into a tourist center, an attraction center, and they need, say, \$50,000. Well, if you will stop to think, we passed legislation here last week that gave Douglas County the authority to raise the tax on their motels and hotels with the money going towards tourism, to promote tourism. Well, if we gave them the authority to raise thousands and thousands of dollars to promote tourism, this is a good place for that money to go, to promote, if you want to, Joslyn Castle as a tourist center. So, therefore, we do not need to give \$50,000 of state monies, which I think is unconstitutional, and even if it wasn't unconstitutional, this is \$50,000 that we don't need to spend. Now, it might seem insignificant to this group, that \$50,000 doesn't amount to much money compared to the way we have been spending money in the last couple of weeks. Well, you have to kind of look at it this way. You can look at it, principle, the principle is wrong, or you can look at it, 50,000 here and 50,000 there and 100,000 here and pretty soon you are up to \$1 million. And when you are talking a million dollars, you are talking a lot of money, isn't that right, Senator Lynch? Senator Lynch says that is true, you are talking a lot of money when you are talking a million dollars. So I would ask that this body remove from the appropriations bill the state tax dollars of \$50,000 that is going to go towards we don't know what, the purchase, the upkeep, the repair, the maintenance, the study. We don't even know for sure what this \$50,000 is going to be used for. So I would ask this body at this time to vote to remove the \$50,000 from LB 813, and thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Labeledz, did you wish to speak on this?