

would have cost \$2.5 million in 1984 will cost nearly 3.1 million by 1990, due to that average 3 percent increase per year for inflation factor. Only 1.6 million has been appropriated to programs for 1990 and '91 at that level. So what we're at is about half of what was originally requested. Okay, this amendment then would allocate not that amount of money, I'm not asking for all of that money, I'm asking instead for an additional \$255,000 to aging programs to supplement that \$212,000 increase that the Appropriations Committee has put in the appropriations bill. This idea would be to offset the impact of the new minimum wage requirements that we have to meet, and, in addition to that, a federal cutback of \$107,000 to aging service programs which will take effect in July of this year. Maintaining current program service levels requires that inflation and the minimum wage impact has to be satisfied and their recommended \$212,000 partially covers that, as I have already said, so the additional 255,000 is really needed in order to offset the impact of that minimum wage adjustment which was to take effect by 1990 of April. I have...I would like to read just a little segment of a letter which was mailed to someone in the Research Division when they asked for information from the aging agencies. This one was sent by Midland Area Agency on Aging which was the former agency that I was employed by some years back, Jerry Ryan the Administrative Director. And one of the statements that he makes in here is, the service provided by an area agency or the agencies we sponsor are divided into two major categories by the Nebraska Community Aging Services Act, congregate services which are provided at the senior centers, and in-home services, such as home delivered meals, escort and chore services. First, they looked at the 15-month cost of the eight area agencies to meet only the increased cost in minimum wage for April 1st of 1990 through June the 30th of 1991. This covers both April 1st hourly wage increases. The cost projections for senior centers and in-home services was estimated and we came up with actually the \$219,388 and then in addition to that for senior center services, 36,315, so their total came to \$255,703. It does not even address the impact of the 90 cents per hour increase on the services programs where a majority of the employees will soon be paid in a range of 4.25 to \$5.00 per hour, due to this increase. To avoid the problem of long-term employees and supervisory staff from being paid the same or nearly the same wages as the newly hired personnel, a 45 cent an hour wage adjustment for these workers they have calculated but that has not been included either. Nor does it address any wage increases for