

SENATOR WARNER: That would be correct.

SENATOR BAACK: Okay, I feel much better knowing that. One more question, Senator Warner. They have filed the lawsuit over whether or not...and they are asking the Attorney General to rule that they are not a state agency so that they don't have to comply with the open records law. If that ruling comes out that they are not a state agency, does that change in any way the way that the Legislature puts their funds into the Historical Society?

SENATOR WARNER: Does that change the appropriation?

SENATOR BAACK: Yes, does that change...does that change our view of how we appropriate money for the Historical Society knowing that they are not a state agency, or have we always appropriated money to them in the past assuming that they are a state agency, if not in name, in actuality as to the way they are treated?

SENATOR WARNER: As I understand the lawsuit, number one, it is not whether the Historical Society is a state agency as much as it is whether or not they are covered by the open meetings law specifically, which is a slightly different basis for the lawsuit, as I understand it.

SENATOR BAACK: Okay, thank you.

SENATOR WARNER: Now, the issue of whether or not they are a state agency, if that's a part of the court case or not, you know, in a very broad general sense I simply do not know, I'm not aware if that's the basis of the lawsuit. I thought it was only relative to the open meetings law on that portion at least.

SENATOR BAACK: Okay, thank you, Senator Warner. I only have one real concern about some of the funds that we have spent so far on LB 340. I am one, too, that believes that we should give them the money they need to comply, and we should do that. The only concern that I have so far on the...on some of the funds that have been expended were they brought in an "expert" from Canada to survey the bead collection here in Nebraska and after he got through surveying the bead collection and saying we have a very wonderful bead collection, the next thing he did was come out and criticize the fact that Nebraska was...had passed a law to return those items in the first place. And I don't think