

whether it should have been if one was to be purchased if it should be bought outright or they also have arrangements for lease purchases over a period of time. But, secondly, we tried to use a rationale to some extent as to whether in this mid-biennial period if it was a "emergency" or if it was some consideration that more appropriately should be at the beginning of a biennial session. And I think it was probably primarily that reason that we did not include it out, that it could be maybe more properly looked at when we're looking at equipment generally for state government during the initial biennial session. But, for those reasons, we did not advance the bill to be considered during the course of this session.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Any other discussion on the amendment? Senator Schmit, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President, as Senator Warner has indicated, there was some concern as to whether or not it ought to have been...should be introduced at the start of the biennial session. I remind you that I did introduce the bill at the start of the biennial session last year and the committee chose at that time not to put the bill on the floor either. I understand the limitations. I understand the limitations. But it always bothers me a little bit and I think Senator Warner accurately touched upon one aspect of it. Aircraft is always viewed by some persons as a luxury item and it should not be. It should not be viewed that way. It ought to be looked upon as a means of transportation. The Governor should use that equipment. It should be available to the Governor of this state for transportation so as to make the Governor more accessible to the citizens of this state and make the job a little easier, I would hope. I would also hope that this equipment, properly outfitted with the latest in avionics and the latest in law enforcement assistance would actually save the state money. I don't think anyone, I don't think the Appropriations Committee ever appropriates a dollar for law enforcement because they want to throw money away. They appropriate the money because they know they need to do something to stop the incidence of unlawfulness in the State of Nebraska. You have to decide and we have to decide whether or not this is a legitimate expenditure. I happen to think it is. I understand very well that the Highway Patrol is not going to come here and request this kind of equipment. They didn't do it 20 years ago when they bought the first one for \$98,000, a used piece of equipment. It, by the way, was worth more than that when we