

rates, no question. Secondly, though, and I think probably more to the point, would be that the major reason for this expansion of space is the amount of research grants, that the university has received, has gone up significantly in the last few years. And I have some figures I would be happy to share with you. The amounts of money, the amounts of numbers of grants, and the amounts of people involved, and they have the possibility of using some of those funds for operations.

SENATOR LYNCH: But I guess the answer is you are not really sure and the possibility exists that rates could go up. Is that right?

SENATOR HANNIBAL: There is always that possibility, yes.

SENATOR LYNCH: Okay, that is what I...this is one of the concerns I have. I think it is great to have research but, just like medical technology, I am not sure how much more we can afford. I will tell you again with the MRI's utilization for magnetic resonance imaging processes have gone up 1600 percent in the last two years, think about that. That is an 850 to 1,200 dollar procedure. Now you would think if we did that, it would probably cut back on CAT scans, wouldn't you, because that is the technology that existed in the generation of technology just before that but, you know, interestingly enough that utilization went up almost 80 some percent, and you'd think that would have cut back on x-rays, wouldn't you? No, that went up over 100 percent. What I am saying is that I think research is important. I think it is good and I think it is wonderful if we can get funds into the state from other sources to provide that research, but we had better start keeping track of how much it costs people who use the hospitals and have to pay for those hospital costs for all of this technology and all of this research, and sometimes I wonder if it is really cost effective. It might make for great bureaucracy, it might put an awful lot of smart professors to work, or doctors, but I am not sure in the long run how much more we can afford this. And this new addition to the construction at the university, which is in Omaha, and I appreciate that, is, you know, 60, 65 million...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR LYNCH: ...with the reconstruction of the dental facility, even more, and I think that is good. However, we can only afford, I think, to consider cost of construction for