

majority of Kearney's Education Department program space and some Education Department personnel are currently housed in Founders Hall. So the need statement that is envisioned here reflects a need for over 37,000 square feet for Kearney's Education Department and that obviously doesn't compare very favorably with that 27,000 square feet that is currently available in Copeland Hall for renovation. So the next planning step associated with Copeland Hall renovation would result in a proposal of not only a renovation of that building, but an addition to the building as well. The committee amendments to 899 would give Kearney State the resources necessary to explore the possibility of a more cost efficient alternative to the addition of a third floor to Founders Hall and a probable addition to Copeland Hall. That alternative should, I think, much more effectively address the space needs at Kearney. So in summary, here is what the committee amendments do. They direct that this alternative project should retain the space priorities similar to those represented by the Founders Hall and Copeland Hall proposals and that is for classroom and faculty office space for Social Sciences and Education. The committee amendments also direct that the space available in Copeland Hall for possible future renovation should continue to be considered in terms of the alternative project. Item 3 would be to identify a potential site for new construction of a classroom building. Probably at this point it would be that vacant lot north of Founders Hall and east of Copeland Hall. And it would finally limit the consideration of new construction to no more than 50,000 gross square feet with the logic for this limitation being that Founders Hall third floor proposal represents approximately, as I said earlier, only the 27,000 square feet. The space needs for Education alone are at least 10,000 square feet in excess of space currently available in Copeland Hall and there exists needs for additional general classroom space on the Kearney State Campus which are not currently addressed in either the Founders Hall addition or the Copeland Hall renovation proposals. So the good news is that Kearney State is growing. The bad news is we're not providing adequate classroom and office space for students there, and so we're using LB 899 to enable us to get started on addressing those space needs at Kearney. I would ask you to adopt the committee amendments.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Schmit, please, followed by Senator Langford, Senator Warner and Senator Lynch. Senator Schmit.