

reasons here are the reasons that we fight war, and if we are so unfortunate to have another war in the next hundred years of this building, I don't know, but I think they pretty well would be contained in those four ideals we have talked about there. I think the Murals Commission has done a good job of recognizing a need to make a monument up on the 14th floor to those who have fought and died, to make it a living monument that doesn't get tied into depicting exact wars, but what the wars were fought for. And I would hope that if we move this amendment, I would certainly like to talk to the veterans organizations of this state. If they have a real problem with this, then maybe we should revisit it as we move along, but certainly today I think the very least so we can move ahead with this very worthwhile project up on 14th floor, recognizing the veterans that have fought in wars, I think we should adopt the amendment and get going. I urge its adoption.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Wesely, please, followed by Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you. Mr. Speaker, members, it was my bill in 1988 that initiated this process and I appreciated at the time that the Appropriations Committee did amend in the \$120,000 and did initiate this process and started the Mural Commission, which I had envisioned in the bill that I introduced back then, LB 648. I introduced it on behalf of the veterans. The Veterans Council was very interested in trying to finish the project on the 14th floor, and I was, of course, very interested in seeing that this building be preserved and the work begun be completed. If you go to the 14th floor, you will see that the eight panels are bare, that they obviously are in need of murals that were designed for that memorial, and the memorial, itself, is a wonderful tribute to our fighting men and women throughout the history of our country, but it also is clear, as others have indicated, that we need a new perspective and I firmly believe that the scholars committee, which includes three individuals I know very well, Bob Haller, Bob Knoll, and Fred Luebke, are just tremendously outstanding, dedicated, loyal Nebraska citizens who care a great deal about this state, and to have them in conjunction with Norman Geske, one of the leading art experts in this state, come back with a proposal is something worth certainly considering very carefully and, in my view, supporting very strongly. The whole concept, as Senator Landis talked about, is the idea that war is to be fought for certain ideals. It is not fought to kill. It is not fought to die. It is