

Methodist, 29 million, you know, not to mention Bryan here in Lincoln with 39 million. And these are hospitals that are growing and building. You know, hospitals are doing a fine job. I want to compliment them for the health services they provide to all of us Nebraskans, you know, but can they live without this bill? Yes, yes, they can. They can live just fine. I think it's important that all of us remember that, I don't know, I don't know how many calls you got from your hospitals associations, but just take a look back in the lobby and see who wants this bill. It's those hospitals I just listed that aren't exactly going to the poorhouse. It's as simple as that. They are good business people. Good business is to get money. The best business...the great way to get money is in the stating of this bill. Yes, the county gets some money and, yes, these hospitals are serving some indigent care but I think that is something you need to think about as you vote for this \$8 million appropriation. Second point I want to make, and, Senator Haberman, I'm not saying that rural Nebraska, greater, upstream Nebraska, stop short of saying great or anything else, just whatever that is, upstream Nebraska, yes, they can qualify for these things and part of the reason they have not to date, one is they just haven't done it; two, is that they've been sympathetic to the local governments. They haven't submitted a bill and I think it...you know, if you swallow the argument that, yes, upstream Nebraska is going to become a larger player in receiving these funds, the next point in that argument is that the cost is just going to go up and up and up and up. Those are the two reasons that I urge this body to vote no on LB 187. At this time I'd like to respectfully withdraw my amendment, read the bill and see what happens.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you, Senator Moore. It is withdrawn. Members, please return to your seats. Proceed, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Read LB 187 on Final Reading.)

SPEAKER BARRETT: All provisions of law relative to procedure having been complied with, the question is, shall LB 187 pass? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: (Read record vote. See pages 1695-96 of the Legislative Journal.) 33 ayes, 13 nays, 2 present and not voting, 1 excused and not voting, Mr. President.