

coordinate together and come up with a policy that we can then move forward on and address the issues involved with housing? Now, the problem, the reason that we have such a need for the state to be involved, besides the fact that we have disengaged from it, is that the federal government has really dropped the ball on the housing issue. The federal government once was quite active and really did, over the eighties, diminish its role at least in terms of need, and we saw the federal government not quite as concerned about the housing issue moving back from it as a priority. So when the federal government moved back and the state moved back, we ended up with a situation that calls for tremendous initiative by the state to begin to at least address and look at the issue once again. Beyond that, I don't know what policies or programs, or what actions we want to take, but certainly we want to develop a blueprint, a strategy, a plan, something in order for us to know where we're going and why we're going there. As for the cost of accomplishing that goal, I put into the A bill the money requested by the Policy Research Office. The Policy Research Office wanted \$120,000 over two years. Frankly, I didn't want to go with that figure. I felt that half that amount would be adequate, that if, in fact, they are doing their work already, if they're already having staff work on housing, which they tell me they are, then they probably could get by with \$60,000 to bring in a consultant to work with them. Now here I want to begin to address the housing issue is important, and \$60,000, or if you wanted to keep it at 120,000, whatever you feel you want to spend on it, we can discuss that on the A bill. But we're talking about, I can't remember now how much Senator Haberman got for his study on social services, I know there is 75,000 in to study the retardation system, \$100,000 to study the retirement system. We...I think when you talk about the housing problem, to spend some money on it, to try and work together and to bring people to a point at which they can agree on a strategy in housing, it makes sense. We've got problems in Norfolk and Lexington where recent opening of new plants has led to problems in getting housing for individuals. Those two towns, in particular, are crying out for assistance and help in trying to address their problems, but that's just the most visible problems that we have. We have problems in the urban areas, in Lincoln and Omaha, with people with inadequate housing or lack of access to housing or the more serious problem of affordability of housing. But you have that problem in the rural areas, the small towns where you have a housing stock...