

elderly people in Nebraska because contrary to the explanation that you were provided in the veto on April 4th, the reasons for the different vetoes on the line item issues, the one on Care Management I would take issue with also but I would go on now down to the one below where it says, these amounts, talking about the Aid To Community Aging Services Act, these amounts represent a substantial increase in state support for local aging services. This is what the Governor is saying for her reason for vetoing. She is absolutely incorrect in this. It's no increase in services. It's a maintenance of the present level if we get these dollars. If we don't get these additional dollars put in at this point in time, there will be a decrease in services rather than an increase. And we're talking here about an increase in those kinds of services that go to in home care, handy chore services, escort services, meals on wheels and so on. So I just wanted to make very clear that it is not money that will increase services, it is money that will simply maintain the current level and it's because of those two situations, number one, the federal cut; number two, the federal minimum wage requirement increase, and then, of course, other basic cost of living increases. I would have loved to have had the whole thing but I am going to ask your support for this part of it which the Appropriations has given to us. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator...

SENATOR SMITH: Oh, wait a minute, one more thing before my time is up. I go ahead of myself a little bit. I have passed out to you and I would like to have you look at this because this came just perfect...in perfect time and it came to me in...it was in one of the newspapers on Thursday, so I clipped it out. And it talks...this is a survey which is a nationwide survey and these are the indications that we talk about aging. It says rather than...and I just highlighted certain parts and if you look at the yellow parts, rather than rushing to sunny retirement communities, most elderly Americans want to live in their current homes as long as possible. Many of these aging home bodies expect to be forced to eventually though because of financial shortfalls, declining and lack of services. And then going on down below it talks about the fact that two-thirds of the elderly people stay, who have lived in the same...have lived in the same region for more than 20 years and only 1 percent 55 years of age and older leave the state, whereas 20 percent of the general population do leave, and then more than half expect to need help with household chores and more than one-third said