

and she wants to stay in her own home. She maintains her own home but she does need help and she does get it from the Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging. I have a 96-year-old sister that stayed in her house up until a few months ago and then had to go to a nursing home, but, believe me, the help that they receive when they are home, from the Office on Aging, is very important to those people. They want to stay in their own home, all they're asking for is a little help. And the Meals on Wheels, I know that that probably wouldn't be affected as much as the others but evidently the elderly people that called me are of the opinion that their Meals on Wheels will be discontinued. I tried to assure the ones that I talked to on Saturday and Sunday that that would not happen, but absolutely no one knows for sure. The...were unable to negotiate a higher reimbursement rate from the Department of Social Services to meet the costs for the Meals on Wheels and the agency subsidizes the contract. Last fiscal year this contract cost ENOA \$44,988 in Older American Act dollars. A hold was placed on new referral's by the Department of Social Services on October 1, 1990. The Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging receives at least 10 to 15 requests daily for Meals on Wheels. The agency...

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR LABEDZ: ...implemented a method of determining high risk clients for programs that they would be eligible for. In a two-week span, we had more than 75 on the waiting list for Meals on Wheels. This number will grow rapidly given the number that we receive daily and I'm speaking just for the Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging. I'm sure there are many throughout the State of Nebraska that are having the same problem. Only half of the state funding necessary is actually being provided. What would have cost \$2,500,000 in '84 will now cost \$3,047,000, but only \$1,547,000 in state aid is being provided in fiscal year '89-90. I urge the members of the body to override at least this section of LB 1031 which is for the Commission on Aging. Thank you.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Korshoj, please.

SENATOR KORSHOJ: Question.

SPEAKER BARRETT: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. Shall debate now cease? Those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, please.