

elimination of the 100,000 General Fund money for this year, but retaining the valid appropriation for funds that might be acquired other than General Fund money, could be done in any event, but would not...would be consistent at least with the objections that a number of people have about increasing the expenditure now of General Fund money. Also, while the amendment will retain the appropriation for the second half of the biennium, obviously that can be reviewed next year. It would be part of the budget committee's appropriation review process. And if things are tight, and the inability to provide that 100,000, needs to be a different figure, that can be considered at that time, and adjusted, if necessary. But at least the onerous part, to me, which was providing tax funds to acquire the particular property at this time, in competition with others who also sought to acquire that property, is removed by taking out the \$100,000. And I just want to indicate that I will offer that amendment, and Senator Beutler has indicated a willingness to accept it. I also want to point out, as I read Senator Beutler's handout that he worked with several grouchy senators on a compromise, I appreciate you didn't say old, grouchy senators, Senator Beutler. (Laughter.) As it is, it seems all inclusive. So...

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Hillman.

SENATOR HILLMAN: Whether you would choose to support Senator Beutler's bill or not, there is one thing I would like to have the legislators think about, and Senator Haberman, if you would, is that trails, and hiking, and beautification in the state is being done in Nebraska, currently. And there are many communities that are interested. And I would give you Scotts Bluff County and Scottsbluff-Gering as an example. That community has just recently put together \$8,000 for a comprehensive plan, and has hired a consultant, from Colorado, to look at creating a greenbelt, along the north Platte River in Scotts Bluff County. And it involves entities of the National Park Service, Scotts Bluff County, the City of Gering, the City of Scottsbluff, Scotts Bluff County, and private people. So there are efforts, throughout the state, to develop trail systems in their community. And whether you support Senator Beutler's bill or not, at this time, I would like to have you keep in mind that these type of projects are very important to many people in the State of Nebraska. And I think you will see more projects of this nature coming about in the future.