

I would move for the adoption of Section 25 as well.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Moore. I'll now recognize Senator Coordsen, followed by Senators Withem and Wesely. Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. I suppose I'm probably alone in this issue. But it appeared to me on being made aware of the proposal to purchase this land that there may have been a year and a time, and there may be a year and a time when that would be a good acquisition to make. But I think that in a time such as the year we're in, and the budget that we're preparing for the next biennium, it is neither politically wise, nor financially sound to deny good programs, deserving programs such as the library automation, because we don't have the money, and yet appropriate \$225,000 to improve the view out the east door of the Capitol, albeit it would be nice to have another boulevard on that side. I don't view this as even being a hard decision to make. Most of us have had reduced economic service...circumstances over our lifetime, and we've had to make hard decisions. We wouldn't even have considered a decision of foreign expenditure, such as this, out of our own budget as being a hard decision to deny making. I don't think that at this time this expenditure should be made, it's not wise, and I would encourage the rejection of Section 25 of the committee amendments. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Senator Withem.

SENATOR WITHEM: Madam Chair, members of the body, ever since Senator Coordsen came to the Legislature, and we served on the Government Committee every year since then, we each, a few times during a session, become very frightened with the fact that we agree on a lot of things. And this, I think, happens to be one of them. This isn't a big issue, obviously, but it's one of those that bothered me the day I heard about, driving down here to Lincoln on the radio, that in this year a 4 percent across-the-board cuts, at that time I think that's what we were talking about, not funding needy projects, of not doing a lot of other things, but we were going to spend a quarter of a million dollars of taxpayers money to buy a building and tear it down to construct a street project in Lincoln. It just didn't make a lot of sense, particularly after we just got through, as a Legislature, rejecting another worthy project that Senator Robak