

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I can understand Senator Wesely feeling some pique this morning because on occasion an agency or its head will not function in the way we feel and I think he may have gotten their attention by offering his amendment and the discussion. I'm not going to be able to support his amendment. There was a time earlier in the game when maybe I would have done it because when the money that Senator Crosby mentioned that was for north Omaha was being put together, that program, Mr. Bishop, who is the director, was not very understanding of that program nor sympathetic toward it. But as time passes and you have the opportunity to discuss things with an individual when his mind is open or if it's not and you're able to open it, then sometimes an accord can be reached and I feel I have a fairly good working relationship with Mr. Bishop at this point and I would not do anything to hinder or cripple the R & D Authority. One interesting thing that happened, when we put the million dollars for north Omaha into the budget, Mr. Bishop had thought that that million could go to R & D had it not been for the north Omaha program. So he wanted to keep the money in the bank account of the R & D and they take the interest. Some of the people who were on the board to administer the north Omaha program, including bankers, did not know how to deal with this problem so they came to my office one morning, explained to me what the situation is, or was at that time, and I said why don't you just tell the man that is north Omaha program money and it's supposed to go into an account for north Omaha. Any money that is realized by way of interest goes into that north Omaha program. Senator Chizek, do you know these bankers and others weren't able to do that, so while they were in the office I called Mr. Bishop. He was very, very accommodating. He explained to me that he felt if I would let the money stay in R & D Authority's account, some of that interest would make up for the million dollars they didn't get. I said, no, it can't be that way, Mr. Bishop, this money is for north Omaha, it has to go into their account. So after a few more words, and I talked to a person in the Governor's Office to explain what I was doing, he asked me if they were able to get into the north Omaha account by eleven the following morning, would that be all right with me. Well, being the reasonable, patient person I am, I said, sure, if you can get it there by eleven o'clock, fine, and it was done. Ever since that point, Mr. Bishop and I have gotten along very, very well. So what I would tell Senator Wesely to do, or suggest it, if he finds problems developing, let me know. I want that authority and other such agencies to