

the criteria we put forth in committee, is this an emergency? If it is, that is something that should be funded. Or is the window of opportunity such that if we do not act this year, that window will be closed next year? I think that is one of the key thoughts that went into this particular item is that if the state does not act after the Kiewit challenge grant has been out there, and our concern was if the state does not act at this point in time, that window of opportunity will not be open for the State of Nebraska next year. I mean the total understanding, basically, of this total project, which does only involve I believe 13 communities in the State of Nebraska, and I am going to assume it does not involved one in Senator Lamb's district, I understand that, so I guess if I am guilty, it does involved York, I guess, but there is 13 communities that are the Resource Library Group. They, obviously, all the communities that feed into that library group will be affected by this, and so even though it is only 13...libraries only in 13 towns that are affected, the libraries that surround that town will certainly be affected. And so of the overall project cost, 50 percent of the cost will have to come from local dollars, either through parent fund raising; in some cases, it may be local tax dollars. Whatever that local community can devise to come up with their share of the match, 50 percent of the total cost of the project will come from local government. Of the remaining 50 percent, the Kiewit Foundation, like I said, has a challenge grant to the state. They will come up with 25 percent of the cost, if we come up with 25 percent of the cost. And given all that scenario and given the fact that that challenge grant has been extended one year, it may well not be there a year from now when we deal with our biennial budget. So If we want to do this, the window is open now and now is probably the time to do it. The other thing, on the budgetary side of things, this is not an ongoing appropriation forever, so to speak. It is only...it is spread out over three years. That was done with the assistance of Senator Wehrbein and Senator Robak, after we have worked on this for a number of years, one of the problems was, it was a hard pill to swallow in one year, could it be spread out over three years? That is why it was done this way instead of all at once, and so it would be a little less of an impact to the state budget. And so it is one of those things, as I said, yes, it is something that is not an absolutely have-to. It is one of those investment things, it is one of those situations that if we don't act now, that opportunity may well be lost. For that reason, the committee chose to put it in and I'd recommend to...