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matter. Omaha and Lincoln needs to be brought in and we need to sit down and understand just exactly what we are dealing...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...with here. If we can do that, knowing that we are not going to continue to bloat or gorge the system with additional brick and mortar, additional expansion of services, using the argument that it is in the best interest of the patient, it is not real difficult to get around Omaha and Lincoln and get to service providers. It is extremely difficult in the rural areas. We don't affect them. In Omaha and Lincoln, we need to stop the building for one year. There should be no new applications approved while we examine the overall system, and try to come to grips with this hundred million dollar plus problem that we are going to be faced with over the next biennium. I would hope the body would reconsider.

SPEAKER BAACK: Time.

SENATOR HALL: I will consider this my close. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Elmer, on the motion to reconsider.

SENATOR ELMER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. You know the problem with our construction of hospitals and so on are largely brought on by federal and state regulations requiring certain conditions to be met in patient care, and we are responsible, as government, for a good deal of that. Medical facilities really don't undergo construction or purchase equipment without serious cost studies, and passage of this moratorium would do very little, if anything, to adjust those costs. Projects that are in bad need of being done in some of the hospitals in Lincoln and Omaha include a boiler that is badly outdated, has to be replaced, and in order to do so, they must renovate and change some of the building that houses the heating plant. Anytime a building is modified or repaired in such a way to renovate, it has to go through the certificate of need. A certificate of need, they have to prove that what is being done is needed. I don't think anything is gained by adopting the Hall amendment. Outdated patient care areas, that must be redesigned to meet the codes, are part of that. And I think that a reconsideration is not necessary. Thank you.

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