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their future, not only ours. But obviously the budget is not that simple because we don't have enough money to go around. And so priorities, difficult priorities have to be made, and that leads me to the what I believe the role of the Chairman, or in deference to Senator Bohlke, the Chairperson or the Chair of the Appropriations Committee, what their role is. My view of the role of the Appropriations Chair and what my role would be is not of someone who is going to say I've got a kingdom here and I've got all this power, ha, ha, I can't wait, in fact it's the exact opposite. The Chair must be a facilitator. The Chair is one that brings all of the ideas from all across the State of Nebraska and bring them fairly and equally to discussion on the appropriations table, and then to lead as the facilitator to discussion so that those issues that are very rancorous can be dealt with reasonably, calmly, and fairly. Besides being a facilitator, the Appropriations Chair must be a consensus builder because again, it is not the Appropriations Committee's bill, it is our, as Nebraskan's, bill. Spending must be in there for the eastern part of the state, Omaha, for Lincoln, for the southeastern part of the state, for the central and western, all people pay taxes, all people expect great things from their state. And so we must build a consensus so that when the budget comes to the floor of the Legislature people can look at the budget and say, that is a fair and reasonable budget. We wish we could do more, we may try to do more through the amendment process, but that people feel good about the process. I can be that consensus builder. In the past I have been that consensus builder. And the final thing that I believe is very important as the Chairperson of the Appropriations Committee is that of a floor manager. It is very difficult, in fact, it scares me to death to be quite honest with you, very difficult to bring in a budget with all of the proposals and all of the criteria in all of the areas to the floor of the Legislature and be able to answer questions about each and every one of those and to handle all the amendments that may be pending and all the changes that may occur and all of the maneuvering that may go along with that. In the past those of you that have been in the body know that I have the experience on the floor to do that. I have been in the ring and I have been sometimes successful and sometimes not successful, but I can manage the bill. Finally, the appropriations process is one that has to be open, and one of the things I have tried to do as Vice Chair in the time that our Chairperson, current Chairperson, former Senator Moore, as he was doing other things, my job as Vice Chair changed and I took the responsibility, not because I was arrogant and said aha, I'm