

from the substance of those, obviously. Will this cost the State of Nebraska some money? Yes, it will. Where will that money come from? I don't know in terms of what specific program but we, obviously, have some travel budget here in the State of Nebraska. I know that part of that is also I think the Governor has made some provisions for that in his budget, and, obviously, the expenses are going to be, to send that delegation back there to this conference, how long does that last? I'd be surprised if you could make it last a week at the most. I think the expenses are fairly minimal. All we...if we could just get one of the mandates undone, as I sit in Transportation Committee, and, of course, we have 37 federal mandates facing us in that committee, that's the reason I am so interested in this, because you have 37 active federal mandates that are taking away from my ability to let you decide what are the things to do as a legislative body. The other one is that I've got to address is the constitutional convention. Let's examine the facts, Senator Witek, one of them being is I've never asked for a United States Constitutional Convention. What I did was talked about a Nebraska convention, and the Nebraska Constitution does need work, and it needs it badly. The body has resisted doing that, that's fine. I accept that. I have rejected and have not come forth with those amendments, came through with a much less intrusive approach and one that more people are comfortable with, and, obviously, this body saw fit to do that. I am certainly not advocating having a United States Constitutional Convention. The danger would be very great there, and, quite frankly, that Constitution is much better worded and it is certainly one that I agree we should continue to use and not necessarily amend willy-nilly. With that, I have no problem. I think the presiding officer language, we are tailoring it to Nebraska to make it clearer, and I am comfortable with the selection process. With that, I'd urge the adoption of the Hall amendment.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Kristensen. Senator Hillman, your light is next.

SENATOR HILLMAN: Madam Speaker, I would yield my time to Senator Chambers, if he still needs some.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Senator Hillman. Madam President, members of the Legislature, what I want to do at this time,