

accordingly, they run as other states do, they do not...accountability. We need to get back to a system where we need to run it as a business, and this is exactly what this does, it runs it like a business. It will make them accountable. This body, in a sense, will have more, I shouldn't say power, I hate the word power, but it really will have more control because the Building and Maintenance Committee, which is appointed by the Exec Committee, they appoint us, I happen to serve on this committee, we will more or less have oversight. We understand what the word oversight means. Okay, the people that the Exec Board appoints to this committee, Senator Hall, and Senator Hall knows what he's doing, we all know that, he...(laughter), he appoints...he's on that committee that appoints us and we have more or less oversight to...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR CUDABACK: ...for this. And so it actually gives the body more power. Then we have the Appropriations Committee. We all know what the Appropriations Committee does. If we have concerns about DAS, if we have concerns about DAS, the Appropriations Committee, we have two members on there, boom, they can cut the funding off. So there are safeguards. What this does, I would like to reiterate it one more time, it brings accountability into the system. We need it. We're short \$250 million. If we don't do this, we tear the buildings down and start over. We have buildings that are in good condition except for a few leaky roofs and so on. Let's fix them up. Let's save the taxpayers some dollars here, bring the accountability back. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, I didn't turn my light on earlier because I didn't have any idea this would be such a controversial piece of legislation because of the fact that...of what it does and the money that it can save and the accountability, as Senator Cudaback just addressed, the accountability that it brings back to the system. I think if there's anything wrong with this bill, in my opinion, that wrong is that it wasn't done ten or fifteen years ago, and had it been done that long ago and had some accountability been built into the system a long time ago, we wouldn't be in the shape as indicated by several speakers of being \$250 million in arrears on the maintenance of some of our buildings. And I