

agree with Senator Cudaback totally, we need to run this system more like a business, more like the private sector does in taking care of their facilities and not let them get into such a condition that the cost of repair and upkeep and maintenance becomes so high that it's almost...it's almost necessary, in some instances, to tear the building down and start over because they've been left to deteriorate. Certainly not putting a lot of blame on different people because I understand how the process works and that's why we're trying to make a change. We're trying to make a change for the better, to make more accountability to the...in the upkeep and the maintenance on these properties. There will be a great deal of oversight by the committee. I, along with Senator Cudaback, am on this committee and we've had a concern ever since I've been involved with it, involved with the committee, 309 Committee, and some of the things that are happening and some of the things that have been left go, and, of course, some of it has to do with a lack of funds. But it could possibly be that...and I'm not speaking of recent years but years ago when there was not...when there was not that much oversight or care about what happened, you know, it's even an example of this...of this very building we're in, you all know that there was a time when it was left to deteriorate where it was almost a disgrace to see some of the things that were happening. Now it's being taken care of and we should all applaud that. The same thing is here. Yes, it's going to cost some money. Obviously, it will cost more money than it may have cost had we done it in the proper fashion, but the issue is I think we need to all of us understand exactly what is happening here and get behind this piece of legislation and these amendments. And I hope that you would see what is actually happening and would be in support of advancing this piece of legislation. Thank you.

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

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, and members, listening to the discussion on this, I...it brings...I wonder why or where were some of the agencies at when the bills were being heard. It's a lot easier to sit back and come back and crucify something after the fact. The only...there was one, only one testifier and he was concerned about state employees. I can't see any...anything in this bill where we are going to bother anybody that has a job right now. Some of the department agencies' track record on maintenance, deferred maintenance, isn't too great. When we start losing sections of roofs 60 feet