

looks at the bills on Select File that would eat into what's left of our money for this year. So I'm not saying that this is a toss up, I'm not saying that I'm going to do one in support of the other, I'm just saying that there's \$5.7 million, folks, that we don't have to worry about this year. I hope it's looked on more favorably next year because I think it's also a viable piece of legislation for our consideration. But I also think that this piece of legislation that Senator Engel is bringing to us is viable for rural Nebraska, and I'm hoping we can find the \$6 million to keep it functional. And I'm going to support the bill. I'm not going to support the bracket motion. I think it's essential that we get it done this year. Thank you.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Senator Dierks. Senator Warner, your light is next.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I suppose somewhat reluctantly, but I think I'm going to support the bracket. I've been thinking a lot the last several days about how we're going to get the revenue and expenditure balanced and what I ought to do on my own to help do that, and I have a bill down the line that I would like to see advance, I'd like to see it passed, it's still on General File, hasn't been discussed. But I suspect if it gets advanced from General File, that's one I, too, probably will volunteer to bracket, just as Senator Dierks has already done, or has indicated at least. Sometimes the argument is made that we need to move everything over to Final Reading and then we will make our choices. And I suppose once in a while when we do that there's a bill that dies on General File or Final Reading, but I'm hard put to remember very many, in fact, I can't think of any, but there probably has been. And then we make the argument and we'll hear the argument, I suspect, that the Legislature needs to make the choice of what we're going to do. Well, I'll tell you, you only get to make that choice if you select the bills you pass on Final Reading within the revenue that's available. Then the Legislature makes the choice. But if we pass everything and it's above the revenue, then the Governor makes the choice and you don't even...we don't even have the choice to override because there simply isn't any money to override with. So I think, painful as it may be, we need to start kind of sifting things out now as we go along. And I'm sympathetic to the concept of bracketing some of these good bills until next year and see if they could be done now. I'd rather do that than indefinitely postpone them, although that certainly is the other