

and, B, if you do want to cut, you don't want to cut by using the Avery amendment because you throw all of our prerogatives on higher education away.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Robinson.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Madam President, members of the body, man, are you a bad boy, Senator Avery; boy, you really are a bad boy. I'll tell you, you're really a bad boy, I'll tell you. But you know, Senator Avery, you have as much right as any of the other senators in this body to get up and express what you want to. People sound like Senator Avery doesn't have a right to do that. He has a right. That's why we discuss the mainline budget bill because...I was going to get up, I was going to say I'm not going to be bombastic, so I will tone down my voice and I'm not, trying not to be arrogant and you know I will not try to be liberal, but I'll tell you, folks, Senator Maurstad gets up and said, we keep pounding this old story that we're laying it on the subdivisions so we should cut the state budget. We are. We say 4 percent on the subdivisions and just exactly what Senator Bernard-Stevens got up and said defending the university, I'm not running down the university, but it's going to happen in every subdivision in the State of Nebraska because they have to cut. And their councils and committees are going to beat out 1 percent some way because if we pass the lid bill, they're going to lose money whether you like it or not, Senator Maurstad. If we say 1 percent less, I presume they have to come in with 1 percent less. So that's the main reason I am against spending as much money as we are and I know how the bracket motion went, but I talked to 25 to 30 people, you know. All of those people feel we're spending too much money, we're spending too much money. Senator Wehrbein, I have a question for you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Senator Wehrbein, what's the cost of living?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: The CPI.

SENATOR ROBINSON: Yeah.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I think it's around 3 percent.