

Senator, is that...

SENATOR AVERY: Withdraw it.

CLERK: Okay.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The amendment is withdrawn.

CLERK: The next amendment, Madam President, Senator Jensen would move to amend the bill. (AM2045 appears on page 2250 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Chair recognizes Senator Jensen.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Madam Chairman or Madam President, members of the body, this is an item that came to me and I wanted to bring it before the body. This amendment would reduce the appropriation to the Public Service Commission by \$19,700 the first year of the biennium which represents a rent figure in an amount of 2,000 square foot at a cost of \$9.85 per square foot and then, in addition, would reduce the appropriation to the Public Service Commission in the second year of the biennium by \$138,500, the total yearly rent appropriations so that the Appropriations Committee then can review. Actually the Public Service Commission in their space allotment has a 2,000 square foot space that is not needed. They, by the Nebraska Power Review Board minutes of April of '95, offered that space to the Power Review Board. This is the 2,000 square foot that is not needed. The Power Review Board determined that that space was more than they can afford and so they declined the offer. The Power Review Board currently has space for \$5.90 a square foot and the quoted price of 9.05 was higher than what they felt that they could justify. This is an example where it seems to me that we have agencies within the government here who have space that is expensive, in some cases more space than they need. The Public Service Commission, for instance, has 400 square foot per person allowance. The Power Review Board has 200 square foot per person. Coming from the real estate industry and having leased several thousand square foot of space in the Omaha area, it's normal for a firm if they have cubicles, 150 square foot per person is adequate. If you're talking about private offices, it goes a little higher than that, but I would say the norm would be in the 200 square foot per person area. But this only points out to me that within state government here we have agencies, and I certainly did appreciate when Senator Schimek