

passed around the commission and board summary report that showed that we had well over about 280 boards and commissions, and I wonder if they are, have the proper review from DAS or whoever for their space allocation. There should be some criteria that the space should be allocated on a per square foot basis of what the personnel absolutely need. Here we have a situation where PSA, yes, they might have trimmed some of their employees down, but certainly if that space becomes available, it should have been returned or at least notified back to the Appropriations Committee so that excess space could have been considered in a budget reduction. I'd like to direct a question if I could to Senator Brown. Senator Brown, would you respond, please?

SENATOR BROWN: Yes, Senator Jensen.

SENATOR JENSEN: What is the criteria in the Appropriations Committee when excess space is determined? Could you...

SENATOR BROWN: I don't know that there is a criteria. This was an issue that as far as I'm concerned we were not aware of at the time that the budget decision was made. We made a reduction at the request of the agency of about 180,000 for 1995-96 and about 170,000 for '96-97 in the PSC's budget based on reductions in staff level that they had due to a change in regulation of the trucking industry, a federal preemption of regulation and to changes in their grain warehousing. But we were not aware of any issues around space allocation and I don't believe that, to my knowledge, the state doesn't have any standards in terms of the amount of space that is available to an agency based on their staff.

SENATOR JENSEN: Do you get requests from other agencies when they have either a space reduction or want more space or space allocation? Does that come before the Appropriations Committee?

SENATOR BROWN: Generally it's just a part of their budget. There is one agency that had specific space requirements due to some health problems on the part of the executive director of that agency and so we dealt with that in a specific way, but generally it just comes as a part of the budget. There's nothing specific that comes. DAS handles all of the leasing and I assume that they would make recommendations in terms of the amount of space and where it could be. Now I know that most of our offices are in the State Office Building and I believe the