

Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Madam Speaker, members, I'm not going to prolong the debate, but I did want to say one thing. One of the things the Appropriations Committee has to do is face the real world and we have to do as it is and not as we wished it was and I was going back to a little bit of what Senator Witek said. You know we didn't decide the 79-21 percent of the health insurance. We have to fund it the way the law is. The negotiated salaries were four and three and a half. That's the way we had to fund it. The pension, the retirement, all of the things that were talked about in our budget, that's the way we have to fund it. It isn't...and that what 49 people, or 25 in this case have agreed over the years and it's kind of the same way with the Public Service. If there's...I'm not saying we shouldn't look at that. I definitely agree we ought to look at that and there ought to be oversight. Senator Cudaback made some good points about that and we're going to have some more bills coming, more things on 530. But part of what you're saying about the appropriations bill, it's because we have to do it as it is, as the law is and there was several cuts proposed early in this year and the body chose not to do that so, therefore, the Appropriations Committee has funded those. So some of the frustration in the budget that we've done, and I know historically that's what happens, we take that heat for that, but it's because we have to do it as the law is, not as any, each one of us wished it was and so we have these composite decisions. And so some of this, Public Service Commission, we want to get at that issue, that's another time and another place. I'd say it would be wrong to take it out at this point. There's nothing that says we can't oversight that. We didn't know whatever square foot there is, that is a little bit contentious at this point as to how much there really is. So I'd urge you not to vote for this, but I'm certainly willing to look at it as a member of the Appropriations Committee to see if we can't make more efficient use, but part of that we'll have to get with DAS and see why that space was allocated that way, and if it can be more efficiently used, that's certainly legitimate.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Senator Jensen.

SENATOR JENSEN: Yes, thank you, Madam President and members of the body. It's not just the Public Service Commission, but it is all the boards and commissions that we have. I passed around last Thursday, if you'll recall, a statement of Nebraska's