

capital construction list, and I'd like to talk about that a little bit. But first I want to talk about the people who live in the cottages. They are people who cannot understand or accommodate a waiting list. Unlike the administration, these are not people who can lobby, who cannot campaign and cannot complain. The Beatrice living units were ninth on the priority list. The first priority on the list was the Norfolk Veterans Home, and it was not even included in the Governor's budget. The Norfolk Veterans Home is in great disrepair and needs to be replaced. Appropriations knows this because they have visited there. It is an example of the state failing to adequately provide for those who are vulnerable and the veterans are not even nearly as vulnerable as the Beatrice residents. Some members have indicated that they intend not to override these vetoes because the Governor was generous in not vetoing the money for the very needed Norfolk Veterans Home. To those people, please remember that the Governor did not include Norfolk in his budget, he had no intention of starting us on the path, while federal match money is available, to addressing this very real need. It was only because the Appropriations Committee was responsible and included Norfolk that it was even considered by the administration. Appropriations is again being responsible by recommending overriding the veto on the funding for Beatrice. We have reviewed the circumstances, as we did with the Norfolk Veterans Home, and decided that the risk was just too great. Seriously developmentally delayed people, many very old, almost all on ventilators or tubes could be on the streets if, as has already happened once, the heating or air conditioning systems were to fail. To anticipate what needs to be done before a crisis, to protect these very vulnerable individuals who is not just responsible as the Appropriations Committee unanimously believes it is, but is a sound business decision and addresses the very essence of a caring society, caring for those who cannot care for themselves. Thank you.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Brown. Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Madam President and colleagues. Things sometimes take a little bit of a different turn. And as I was contemplating this I thought back to a quotation of an individual that I've admired, and I'm going to give you the quote first, and then I'm going to put it in a different context because it said...Vince Lombardi said, football isn't a contact sport, it's a collision sport; dancing is a contact sport. Well, with both Governor Nelson and now Senator Warner