

indicating not support for this override, politics isn't a contact sport, it's a collision sport. Obviously we've got...we have some work to do to be able to do the right thing for the people who live at the Beatrice State Developmental Center. Now obviously I'm speaking before you because I represent the 30th District, and Beatrice is the largest community in the 30th District, and obviously the senator that represents that area would be supportive of this. But I want to remind everybody that the clients that live in these cottages are Nebraskans, and they are Nebraskans from every part of our state. It just happens that their homes happen to be in my particular district. And it just happens that their homes have heating and air conditioning and climate control systems that are at the end of their life, and it just happens that these individuals don't have the flexibility that the rest of us enjoy. So when something unexpected occurs, you know, we can adapt. They're not people that adapt that easily. Now, as has been mentioned, one of the units has in fact failed and they were moved into some temporary quarters. Fortunately, at that time, for the...for BSDC there were vacancy savings dollars available so that they were able to begin the renovation and were in the midst of renovating one of the six units in question. We, of course, have taken the vacancy savings away and so we've taken away their flexibility. When it became clear that that was going to occur is when I decided that it was in the best interest of the Nebraskans that live at these homes that we'd take a proactive step and give the administration the ability to plan on the renovation, to give the individuals that live there the ability to plan and for when they're going to temporarily be out of their homes, when they're going to have this disruption because once again I do want to emphasize these are their homes. This is a needed project, and as I mentioned I believe it deserves the priority that the Appropriations Committee now, on two occasions, have given it and the full Legislature has given it on one occasion. And, as I mentioned with Senator Chambers, I think there are very good, sound reasons that we should override this veto. But I want those decisions based on the merits of this project, and I'd be happy to try to answer any questions that somebody might have specifically about the units or the individuals that call these units their homes. Thank you.

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

SENATOR ELMER: There we are. Thank you, Madam President and