

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Madam President. I want to make two things clear at this juncture. First of all, Senator Chambers, I understand your perspective in that certainly this is an evolving process and that there are things that come up during that process that can...can void decisions that were made earlier. And I accept that, we all...we all have that, but...and you weren't the first one today to change their mind on me. There were at least a handful of others that at first indicated support for this that have since reconsidered their decision. So I understand that and I understand that what I'm going to say now very well might...might lose your vote, depending upon how this vote comes out on the cottages at Beatrice, but I also make commitments and I think everyone needs to know that this question came up in my conversations with members relative to if this were separated what would my position be, and it would be the same thing that it was relative to the budget the Appropriations Committee brought. The Appropriations Committee made the recommendation that both of these projects be overridden. I voted with that and so with the other eight blocks of granite I will continue to do what...what commitment was made earlier. So I urge the body to vote no on the amendment with Chambers, that Chambers has put forth, and that you consider then the full recommendation of the Appropriations Committee.

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

SENATOR DIERKS: Madam President and members of the body, I am not sure exactly what we're doing here. I think I know but I would just like to stand in support...I have to stand in support of the funding for Curtis. This is a little school out there that's had a number of rough roads to get over and it's doing well again, I think, after a number of attempts to withdraw it from funding or withdraw funding from it. They have improved their curriculum. They have improved their numbers and I think, for the most part, the...I'm talking now about the School of Veterinary Technology is the finest in the nation and that isn't just a matter of pride, I think that's a matter of fact. They produce the best that we have. It was one of the first ones in the nation as well defined and well planned and I would like to see the funding continue there. I'm still trying to make up my mind about whether to help Senator Chambers with the division of the question but I...at this point, I think that I will not, not the division but the amendment. I'm not sure which way works best because I happen to be supporting Senator Maurstad on his