

override. So I would ask everybody to once again consider this project on its merits. The level of care that's provided to these individuals at Beatrice State Developmental Center is the best that they can receive. This is the place where they need to be. This is their homes and I would hope that you would think of them and not the politicians that are involved in this, myself, the Governor, the rest of us, but think of...think of the Nebraskans that we're...that we're trying to serve here. With that, as I indicated before, although we didn't get a chance to, I would be more than willing to answer any specific questions that anybody might have about the four living units involved.

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

SENATOR JENSEN: Yes, thank you, Madam President, and members of the body, and I do have a couple of questions for Senator Maurstad, if he would respond, please.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Yes, sir.

SENATOR JENSEN: The priority status that was established by the DAS paper that I have in front of me, which the Governor so politely supplied, when was that...do you have any idea when that was determined, when that priority status was that put Norfolk at the top, and put the cottages at number nine?

SENATOR MAURSTAD: It's my understanding this would have been in the middle of last year, Senator Jensen, prior to the budgeting process.

SENATOR JENSEN: So that was prior to the budgeting process.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Yeah, to get ready for the budgeting process, more than likely.

SENATOR JENSEN: Okay. And then I have a question about the 309 funds. Those are not available at this present time for those cottages. Is that correct?

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Well, the...the cottages most certainly...the funds...the cottages would most certainly qualify for 309 funds. But as the...the Chairman of the 309 Committee could relate to