

17 million. So, obviously, it is a very small percentage compared to what was...to what was vetoed. The thing that concerns me, which I think also concerns the university, is the size of the overall appropriation, not so much if the current student body served were to remain the same, but in the face of what is apparently at all three campuses a significant increase in the student body populations. I think many of you received, or hopefully all of you received the letter from the Board of Regents, from Nancy O'Brien, as Chairperson, and in that letter, I just wanted to bring to your attention the fact that at UNL and at UNK and at UNO, all have already admitted sharply increased numbers of students; 1,000 at UNL, 364, and at UNO 10 percent more. All of these are very significant increases over what has currently been the population served. At UNL it is 1,072 more first time freshmen than at the same time last year. At UNK it is 364 more first time freshmen than this time last year. Transfer applications are up at both of those institutions, total applications way up at those institutions, and the pattern is the same at UNO. So clearly in terms of the number of undergraduates served, we are talking about increases, in terms of a freshman class, of 10 to 20 percent, and I hope that you will be cognizant of this when you are voting on this particular amendment, but also be cognizant of this as time passes and we review next year the adequacy of the universities budgets. The...I think with that, that I will probably stop. I really don't see the rationale for not giving back to the university all or a portion of their vacancy savings. We have not done that, even though the Appropriations Committee argued for doing that, even though the rationale and the logic of the situation that exists there would seem to argue that those should be restored. In any event, it...I guess there is not going to be more done for the university than the 3 million that we are voting on presently, but I sure hope that you see this 3 million as bare bones, a bare-bones override as...

SENATOR HALL PRESIDING

SENATOR HALL: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: ...far as the university is concerned because there is a lot more that needs to be done there, and there is no other institution in this state that is a more leading institution in terms of taking us along the path to a better and higher quality society. Thank you.