

SPEAKER WITHEM: The amendment is not agreed to. The call is raised. Mr. Clerk, anything else on the bill?

CLERK: Senator Wehrbein has the next amendment, Mr. President. Senator, this is found on page 1228. It is the one you handed out.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members, this is the one to build. You have it passed out. I think we've discussed a lot of these issues, so I am not going to burden the body with more discussion of it. Unless there is something that really needs to be said by someone, I'm going to talk and then withdraw it. I think the point has been made. I made many of the points that I thought needed to be made about the need for continuation towards what we need to build. I do not intend to put the body on the spot at this point to whether we should move ahead, but I sincerely believe that we will be back next year. I make no bones about it, it would have been vetoed...it would be vetoed anyway. I did have a proposal in my original amendment, which I could not put in here, as an appropriations bill. I was going to attach it to another bill, which I am not sure is going to be coming up, about how to finance a prison. It is not popular, but a one cent sales tax from July until December, for six months, for example, would construct it. A half a cent per year would do it. There are several innovative ways to do it, if it was necessary to do. It's my political sense that the state of Nebraska would support something, if necessary, to finance a prison as we continue down the road that we are headed on, in my opinion, and I reluctantly acknowledge that. I would be willing to put my, I guess, political life on the line for that reason because I think sooner or later we are going to have to have the political will and the financial decision to make to finance another prison in Nebraska. And I don't come to that decision lightly and neither does the Appropriations Committee, although I will let them speak for themselves on that. That's the reason I wanted to put this up. We've discussed many of those issues in the last few hours of debate, specifically this morning, so I don't think it's necessary to go over all the facts and figures, as I have, but I invite you, over the weekend, if you want to look into some of the capital...the studies that have been made, the task force recommendations; specifically, there is one that was made by this architectural firm about what we can do in