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other facilities that present the unique management issues. The state veterans facilities are homes to the residents living there. And the medical conditions of these resident veterans would prohibit them from leaving the building in order to smoke. There is no doubt that smoking is harmful and it would be absolutely ludicrous to pretend that it isn't. It's a very black and white issue for many, many people. I, however, represent all my constituents, and this was a concern that I had, and so this is why the amendment came forward. It will allow input. Now Senator Tyson's amendment did not have a public hearing. And, as we all well know, while that might be an argument why we don't go forward with an amendment, all you need is 25 votes to go forward with anything. So what my amendment does, as I said, it still states that no person shall smoke in a building owned or operated by the state, unless authorized by the governing body or agency having jurisdiction over the building, except that smoking shall be prohibited in the State Capitol. What it does is it lets the entities that are responsible for the care of their residents make their decision. And I would put this issue before you and hope to have your support for the amendment 279. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Schmitt.

SENATOR SCHMITT: Yes, Mr. Speaker, members, I rise in support of Senator Peterson's amendment. We had discussed this. And I think what she brought up here about the veterans home, I think there was a lot of other issues that was probably brought up with this amendment. One of them that comes to mind is the residence home at the state parks, at the Fort...Fort Hartsuff, Fort Kearney, where the superintendents are living, these are private residence, but they are owned by the state. And I just felt her amendment was a good amendment. It doesn't take away from what my original bill wanted to do, and that was to make the Capitol smoke-free, and it turns it back to the governing agency to have the control. And so I just rise to support her amendment. And thank you, Senator Peterson.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Kristensen, Senator Peterson, some questions, if I may, so I understand the scope of your