

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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adopted. Before we proceed, Senator Crosby would like to announce the following guests are visiting the Legislature: 65 second grade students from the Rousseau Elementary School here in Lincoln along with their teachers. (Introduced teachers.) They are seated in the north balcony. If you'd rise, we'd like to recognize you and welcome you to the Nebraska Legislature. For discussion on part two of the committee amendments to LB 179, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Wehrbein, you're recognized. (FA54 is found on pages 1008-1010 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Excuse me, I didn't catch my names. Yes, Mr. President, members of the body, I want to clarify perhaps, as near as I can tell, we do not have any homestead exemption in the status of the budget at this point. The A bill will carry this. We're looking...we have the money. If you look at your yellow sheet, on page 13, we have the identical amount of money in that the Governor has in his comparisons, as near as we can tell at this point. The A bill's intended to carry the increase in his proposal. So we do not have it in the status, as I understand it, and if you look at that line on homestead exemption, going across there, we've put the same amount of money in with the idea that this bill would carry itself and I do not think that we have it in the status at all. It will be in the...it will be out there for A bills. I stand corrected if I find out different. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Beutler, you're recognized.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Lieutenant Governor Maurstad, members of the Legislature, I would like to encourage you to reject the rest of the committee amendment and, again, I would state strongly it's not because these are not worthy causes. It's because we can only do in one year so much for each and every one of the various worthy causes that come before us. And, believe me, now having been on Appropriations Committee, there are a whole large number of worthy causes out there that are coming before the Appropriations Committee and that are coming before you in the form of other A bills. It is true that the Governor's budget contained about this amount of money for a homestead exemption, for a formulation of it that I understand a portion of which has been brought into this bill. However, however, what did the