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administration had said didn't need a new roof and yet the roof was leaking and I, as a construction person, when a roof leaks you got to fix the roof. And so I did vote to override that particular veto. This particular one concerns itself with mental health provider rates, reimbursement rates. Many of you have heard about this issue. We here in Nebraska have some outstanding providers who are doing services, providing services for our mentally ill. These are individuals that need help and without this help they're on the streets. They're either doing some harm to themselves or others, and we have providers who have not had an increase in rates in over six years. Many of these providers and, by the way, all of them that I know of are nonprofit organizations. They have dipped into the reserves. They have tapped into any of the funds that they have available, be it endowment funds, and the dipper now is coming up dry. And if they don't get an increase then they say, we're going to stop providing the programs; we don't have a choice. And yet we, as a state, certainly are faced with a situation as...as a case that was filed earlier the last couple years that said that we must provide community services for these individuals. And so it is with that that I bring this issue before you that would, yes, increase the reimbursement rate to the mental health providers. These are all throughout the state, not just located in Omaha or Lincoln, but throughout the entire state. These are to address those individuals to give the providers money where they can break even without losing dollars. If we don't do this, we're going to lose programs and we're going to lose providers. I wished there was another choice. I really don't see that whatsoever. I would like to give a little of my time to Senator Lynch, who is well aware of this particular problem that we have. But I would just ask that you would look with favor into this override motion. Senator Lynch.

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** Senator Lynch, you have approximately seven minutes.

**SENATOR LYNCH:** Thank you. Thank you, Senator Jensen, and thank you very much, as Chairman of the Health and Human Services Committee, for offering this amended version of the overrides. It's important that this override be successful for so many reasons. Region VI is identified, for example, with Douglas County. Just want to remind you all that it's not just Douglas