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appropriated and finalized, and whatever that amount is, that's the third match. And whatever that equates to, that's how many beds we come up with.

SENATOR HARTNETT: My second question to you, Senator Preister, then is, are we, with this move, are we shortchanging the veterans? Will we have a need in the state for a 150-bed facility in the Omaha area?

SENATOR PREISTER: Senator Hartnett, the bulk of our veterans, as you know with the retirees and people near Offutt Air Force Base, are in the greater metropolitan Omaha area, and so right now, although the capacity at the current home is 159 beds, we can't use many of those rooms. They're just not available. So we only have 110 veterans at the current home. We've got a waiting list. I think there are 30, I'm not exact, but 30-some people on that waiting list currently, and I expect that that list will grow. So we have the need definitely.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Okay. Thank you. Maybe if I could ask...Mr. Chairman, if I could ask Senator Wehrbein a question.

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Wehrbein, would you yield to a question?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Senator Wehrbein, you know we do bond for, you know, dorms and so forth. Did the Appropriations Committee consider bonding for this? Because, you know, my concern is, a little concern, is if we're building a facility that doesn't meet or is not going to meet our needs in the future, is there another way to do it with bonding? Just want reaction to it.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Well, Senator Hartnett, we did not look into that. I assume the administration considered that. I don't know what they did this...the administration had taken the lead in this, tried to make a commitment to doing something that we need this. This is approximate the size of facility that we