

Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Senator Nichol.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Mr. President and members of the Legislature, I'm generally not in favor of earmarking money for a specific idea, but in this particular case I was and am in favor of the bill the way we passed it. Senator Remmers said it eloquently when he said we would be dishonest in allowing this money to be diverted somewhere else. When talking with Senator Nelson prior to our passing this, and remember, our emergency was not on us at the time we passed this bill. We weren't \$16 million short in April at the time we passed this bill. I voted for this bill for the specific reason that it was going for a specific purpose and I urge you to continue to support LB 280 and override the Governor's veto. I am frugal and I am in favor of cutting the budget as the Governor suggested. This is not the place. We passed this ahead of time, not after the fact, and I'm going to support reductions in the budget in the future and if the powers that be have not thought of all of the places where it can be cut, some of the rest of us that were not in on the deals have some other ideas where it can be cut. Remember, we made this arrangement before the crucial moment. We should stick to that, be honest with it and continue to have it spent where we wanted it spent. Several of us would not have voted for this bill probably had we known it was going to be diverted for some other purpose. I suggest we stick with 280, override the Governor's veto and continue on with the program. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Before I recognize Senator Sieck for the second time, I'd like to introduce some guests of Senator Morehead that are in the south balcony, 14 fifth and sixth graders from St. Michael's School in Fairbury with their teacher. If you would stand, please, we'd like to welcome you to the Nebraska Legislature. Senator Sieck.

SENATOR SIECK: Mr. President and members of the body...

PRESIDENT: Before you start, Senator, members will keep their conversational level down (gavel) so we can hear the speaker.

SENATOR SIECK: I do want to encourage you to override the