

buildings, new construction, new edifices so to speak be built with that money and that the state come up with another 7 million or plus in "matching funds." The purpose of this resolution is to suggest an alternative. Rather than at this particular point in time be building new edifices, why not take care and save the existing system and why not consider inducing or convincing Congresswoman Smith and others to utilize that federal funding that she claims is available? I'm sure she wouldn't claim it unless it were. Why not use that money to take over Curtis and guarantee we preserve that institution without expending new funds, both federal and state, on new edifices, trying to duplicate other things and then ending up, a couple of years down the road, wiping out one and maybe not able to support the other? So the resolution simply suggests and asks that this alternative be considered and this alternative be supported by the Legislature. I repeat, it would then say, Curtis, we are going to keep you in existence, not only are we going to keep you in existence, but we are going to strengthen you and guarantee long term support because we are going to utilize that federal money that would simply go into new buildings or new construction and use it to preserve the existing system. So I would urge you to give some consideration to this, debate it and discuss it. I know Senator Vickers has an alternative which he feels is more appropriate and that is just saying that the Legislature likes Curtis. But at least at this point give some strong thought to the possibility that if you don't, and I repeat, if you don't have something more substantive for the preservation of Curtis than simply a resolution or a request that it not be closed, that you stand a very significant chance of seeing that institution closed in the not too distant future. I think that would be a tragedy, but I think it is also a reality, unless you come up, we come up with some better plan. What I'm suggesting here, I think, is a better plan.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Mr. Clerk, I understand we have an amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Vickers would move to amend the resolution. I believe copies have been distributed to the membership. (Vickers amendment appears on page 246 of the Journal.)

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Vickers, please.