

conceptions which have come to every member of this Legislature. There are some people who are chastising this Legislature because in the area of mental retardation we seem to be deficient. I would challenge this statement, first of all in the budget, although the committee put in more money, the Governor's recommendations in mental retardation increase the office of mental retardation by 20%. In addition to this, the latest figures that we have indicate that the total amount of money spent in the State of Nebraska for mental retardation in the years 71 and 72 were over \$15,000,000. I hardly think this is-- can be considered neglect on the part of the Legislature in this particular area and if I took too much time on the question I apologize. I'm simply trying to clear up some misconceptions that have confronted this Legislature.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Alright, here's my final question, and it might be in two parts. Did the Governor offer amendments to the original bill that he introduced?

SENATOR MARVEL: The Governor sent Senator Proud some amendments to his original bill--

SENATOR CHAMBERS: --Then if--

SENATOR MARVEL: --As far as--excuse me, as far as I can see; point no. 1, these are minor amendments; point no. 2, the Governor has the perfect right and had from the beginning because his bill was introduced months ago, had the right to, to submit additional legislation to take care of these particular amendments as he submitted additional legislation in other areas.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: This is the final--this is the second half of that question. Do you think then, in view of the fact that the Governor did offer amendments, whether they're minor or otherwise and that could be a matter of opinion, that LB 50--259 as it stands, is the Governor's budget bill when it does not represent his final statement and what is needed in the way of the budget.

SENATOR MARVEL: Yes sir, because I'm not certain that his final statement has been made yet. There are bills circulating in this Legislature at the moment which he's asking members to introduce and so I, I think that, that, in, in--best I can answer your question, 259 is a reasonable representation of the Governor's philosophy as far as budgeting for State Government is concerned in the operational area for the next fiscal year.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you Senator Marvel and anything else I have to say I'll save for closing after Senator Carpenter's motion is dealt with.

SPEAKER: Chair recognizes Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: I'd like to ask Senator Marvel one question.

SPEAKER: Senator Marvel, will you yield?

SENATOR MARVEL: Yes sir.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Now I do not know the answer to this. Did the Governor of Nebraska personally ever appear before your committee on the appropriations?

SENATOR MARVEL: No sir.

SPEAKER: Will the Chair read--will the Clerk read the motion of Senator Chambers?