

are dealing with exceedingly limited funds. I think from that point of view it can be understood that all construction we would like obviously can not be done and if the body of course has and does properly have the ultimate authority of determining those priorities. There may be other members of the Appropriations Committee, Mr. President, who wish to address something specific on the LB 594.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Carsten, do you wish to be recognized?

SENATOR CARSTEN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Warner a question if I may. It relates to your personal comments as opposed to your explanation of the bill, Senator Warner. As I understand you are not necessarily opposed to the bill itself but as to the implication that will be involved with the passage of this bill in the next and continuing fiscal years, is that correct? Is that what I understand you are saying? If so, and I don't like to put you on the spot, but is there anyway that we can keep those future expenditures down to a very minimum or is it the opinion of the committee at this point that there is no way we are going to keep them down if we proceed with the adoption....approval of this bill?

SENATOR WARNER: Senator Carsten, I want to make it clear that I am not opposing at all at this point what the committee is recommending and my remarks are not intended to do that. In fairness, the committee has discussed, as I indicated the amount that would be used next year would be committed to next year assuming that all construction progressed as anticipated. But 23.6 million that we would have authorized this session or previous sessions specifically in addition to that of course is the whatever level of funding for deferred maintenance we traditionally...that six and a half or seven million dollars. Yes, I have a concern that that is to high. One of the things that was discussed in the committee, however, that is reasonable to speculate on and that is contained in that 23 million for next year is....and this year rather, between the two it is reasonable to assume that there is about a \$1,300,000 at Beatrice. Now whether or not the courts will allow the state to proceed or not proceed with that capital construction, it is unknown at this point. So, while the appropriation bill carries that amount one could argue that it may not be expended, and I know of no way to judge that. In addition, included in that amount is the appropriation for next year for the Omaha Medium Minimum facility at the level of 4.7 million dollars. Now it is again discussed whether or not in fact construction will begin there. Some feel that it will begin by this fall. Others are less sure.