

SPEAKER MARVEL: The motion is carried, the bill is advanced. The next bill is 998.

CLERK: LB 998 introduced by the Appropriations Committee, (read title). The bill was read on March 11th, referred directly to General File, Mr. President.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, I move that LB 998 be advanced to E & R Initial. This is the general government agencies operational budget. If you will follow in your prepared book rather than the bill that was handed out in your offices included in the section in your red book is aid money that might be appropriated or passed through a variety of agencies. I will not comment on any of those provisions now because they are contained in LB 1002 rather than in LB 998. 998 only deals with the appropriation for the actual administrative cost of that agency. Again, the same broad policies that apply and I'll only just briefly mention those agencies which have some adjustment over and above those committee policies. The Department of Education there are a couple of larger items, one is \$100,000 and an equal amount is appropriated to the ETV this is for an updating for the Nebraska heritage series, which the one currently exists and was done some 20 years ago, it is a history of Nebraska, the initial appropriation was started a year ago and this is a continuation of that program. There were some adjustments made in the Department of Education where we could reduce general fund and could insert federal funds and that is indicated or reflected in the budget request. In the case the Department of Revenue the committee's appropriation contained in the bill includes an amount for homestead exemption at the level of 29 million dollars and if homestead exemption is passed for some figure bigger than that it would come out of a portion of the 8.3 million or whatever level the legislature should determine. There was a couple of things that we did do in the Department of Revenue. I should point out that \$119,000 additional general fund money for travel for audit. We spent considerable time in November and December meetings looking at the Revenue Department, part of the sunset laws on what most effectively could be done to increase the collection sales-income tax and there were a number of alternatives that we looked at and one that we are suggesting is the additional travel money that is primarily audits to be made of companies out of Nebraska, out of state and based on a cost benefit ratio. This kind of expenditure has far greater return than some of the other options that we looked at for improving the efficiency of that agency. The Department of Agriculture, essentially increases in this department was in the area of export marketing programs in the amount of about \$30,000. I should mention in passing that the administrative costs for the 1981 grasshopper program is