

of an appraisal. If any of you have ever been to Omaha, you know where Peony Park is. You know where the New Tower Motel is and restaurant on 78th Street. It is one of the most expensive pieces of property, commercial property, you can buy in Omaha. If the state is going to let this go for \$130,000, we are talking about a building that is 1500 square feet and then has a large parking lot, and it is a corner lot. What I am saying to you is this piece of property, if legitimately sold, ought to go for a half a million to a million dollars in that location. Those who testified before us said, well, there were several people interested in it. You bet. For \$130,000 I'll bet there are a lot of people interested. But the Revenue Department never ever came up with a real figure on it and they introduced this bill in January. I would like to see us not kill this bill, because I want to see the state get rid of the building since they are no longer using it, but I would like to see us hold it until at least there has been a legitimate appraisal of the property, and then the state get their money. But I just kind of smell something funny about that property and a figure of \$130,000 being thrown out. I brought this up at the committee hearing. The Revenue Committee just said, well, we'll go through all the proper processes and everything. But I heard only last week there is a prospective buyer for it and it is almost like a deal has already been cut. So I would like to ask that the body merely ask the Revenue Department, since this bill was introduced in January, the building has been vacated by Douglas County where they gave the driver's license exams, and find out have we or have we not had two or three appraisals on this property to find out what it is really worth because I don't like to see the state lose money when we could get a lot more for it. Like I say, I don't want to kill the bill, but I would move that we just not advance it today and that the Revenue Department come up with a more legitimate appraisal. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, Senator Higgins, may I ask you a question, please?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Higgins, would you respond to a question, please? Senator Higgins, Senator Higgins, would you respond to a question, please? Thank you.