

SENATOR SCOFIELD: Mr. President, members, as Senator Warner has pointed out, the rationale for this particular override does not match the general criteria of education or health. But the distribution system is such that I, being one of the minority members of the committee, being one of those members who represents 4 of the 81 counties who take a net loss, it occurs to me that that distribution system is so flawed that we are obligated not to proceed with that, and in fact to override it. I do think it is important, though, to make a point here for the record and for the local subdivisions indicating where I think at least we are going. Again, relative to what is certain to happen in terms of federal cuts we can see that every time we review a specific agency, in our budget process, there is hardly a single agency, that I can think of, that we haven't heard in the last couple of years that we expect a major impact from federal cuts. I think we can expect that to be even more serious next year and probably increasingly serious the following year. It is important for us, I think, as representatives of the state, to work closely with those local subdivisions, to seek ways to deal with what inevitably must be significant cuts in many of these programs simply as a result of declining federal dollars. There is no way that I can see that a state the size of Nebraska is going to be able to pick up perhaps a 12 million dollar figure related to waste water treatment, which I think is going to go perhaps to 2 next year for example. And the examples of that are endless. So I think it is important that we make it clear to local subdivisions that we are interested in working with them in solving those programs. But there aren't any easy answers to this, and I think we've got to keep that in mind. But in the meantime I think the inequity of that distribution system obligates us to override that issue. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Abboud, please. Then Senator Conway.

SENATOR ABOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, I will not be supporting this motion to override on the veto on this particular measure. I think it is important to realize why I am not going to because this particular motion makes us cross over the threshold of requiring a tax increase. If you look at the sheets that were handed out by the...by Senator Warner or by the Appropriations Committee, you will note that we can still get by with overrides of approximately \$7.5 million. With the last motion we came awfully close to reaching that threshold. And with this next motion, the \$7 million approximately, we will cross over and we will be requiring this body to vote for a tax