

before these other grandiose plans for some time in the future. I know Senator Warner said we don't have to buy that \$800,000 building now, or the Governor doesn't have to. But, as I understand it, it is in this motion to override. So I would just say let's put people first and bricks and mortar second. I will not vote to override the Governor's veto on this, and I urge the rest of the body not to. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Higgins. Senator Lowell Johnson. The next speakers are Senator Hannibal, Hall, and Haberman. Senator Hannibal, Haberman, and Hall. Senator Lowell Johnson.

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I rise to support the motion to override the Governor on LB 1252 representing the 302 overview committee of this Legislature. I and four other members of this body have been acutely connected with the programs that have been developed in the 309 program over the past several years. It is a program that was developed in 1976, after state buildings, the condition of state buildings had become a total deplorable mess as far as maintenance had been concerned, and the 309 committee that was formed, with real sense of responsibility to the maintenance of those buildings and the establishment of adequate maintenance programs, and instructional programs and seminars to teach those people maintaining the state buildings across the state on how to identify and to take care of their problems. The amounts of money spent since the initiative of this program has averaged about \$3.75 million per year. As noted by Senator Warner and others, this program has been one of the favorite whipping boys of the Legislature when it comes to making cuts. If you will recall, within the last 3 years the amounts have been reduced to the sum of \$1 million each for 2 years, and last year we were fortunate in being able to provide \$1.5 million. The Governor himself, in the initial budget message this year, proposed that we allocate \$3 million for the use of the 309 Task Force. And that is still a bare minimum because the total need, as established across the state, and as a footnote also to that the money for 309 maintenance is not spent entirely in Lincoln, Nebraska, it is spent across the entire width and expanse of the State of Nebraska. The State of Nebraska owns over 2,000 buildings scattered from Fort Robinson to Omaha, to Lincoln, to the four state colleges, to the Department of Public Institutions in Hastings and the various other towns involved. The total identified need for the '86-87 year, according to the budget submittals, that have been submitted to the 309 Task Force, amounts to the grand total of over \$37 million. The