

and Parks, we are not on Senator Lamb's amendment? Thank you, Mr. Chairman. There are two things in this state that I think the taxpayer is proud of, most of the people anyway, and that is football and our park system and the recreational things that we provide for them. I really believe that a 3 percent cut is sufficient for any agency and I don't think that I will support any recommendation by the Appropriations Committee who have worked very hard and very long. I respect them and appreciate what they have done because I was there for two years and I know what it is like, but the two years I spent there we were not in the dilemma that we are today and they have had some very difficult decisions to make. But I always consider and I should probably go back to the day that I became a State Senator, it was the time, actually the very only time that I actually discovered Nebraska by going to the state park system because I was on the committee at that time and I was also Chairman of that committee at one time. I have gone through this state and have gone through it summer after summer now because I finally discovered our Games and Parks system and the beautiful sights that we see in the State of Nebraska, and, lo and behold, we see a budget now that is cutting one agency 5.65 percent that has done so much for the state, has done so much for the people of this state and I mean the lower income and the middle income people because they are not able to travel to other states in this country for vacations in Colorado or California or Florida, but when they hear what we have got in the State of Nebraska hundreds of thousands of people across this state are staying in Nebraska, and, yes, they are discovering Nebraska as I did seven or eight years ago when I started traveling. I do that every summer now, take as many as 40 people on a bus and we travel to every county. I have been in every park, every historical site this state has. And when people talk about going to Europe or going to Florida, I would pass up a trip like that any day to stay in the State of Nebraska because of what I have seen done in the future of our Games and Parks and the future of our system for the people of Nebraska. I think it is unfair, unwise, to cut the Games and Parks Commission 5.65 percent and then others less, even as much as 1.5 percent. Remember one thing, and I said it at the beginning, we are proud of two things in Nebraska. They are not proud of the Legislature. You see the letters in the Public Pulse. You are getting letters in the mail, as I have. They are not proud of what we are doing because they don't think we are doing a good enough job. But you