

March 10, 1978

PRESIDENT WHELAN: All rise for the morning prayer.

CHAPLAIN: Prayer.

PRESIDENT: The Legislature will come to order. Record your presence. Roll call.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Venditte would like to be excused until he arrives.

PRESIDENT: Have you all recorded your presence? Record.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Quorum present, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Corrections to the Journal.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, on page 1167 on line 28 delete the word "specific".

PRESIDENT: Are there corrections from the floor? Seeing none, the corrections shall stand. Notices, reports. The Chair recognizes Senator Warner to explain a handout.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, we had passed out this morning on a white sheet the same information which will subsequently appear on the Speaker's agenda on the backside for the balance of the session but it is to give you an indication of the financial status of things as they now exist. If you look on the longer white sheet, there is an indication that the committee recommendations, and in one case, legislative action would have accounted for a total of \$558 million of the \$562 million, that approximate \$562 million that is available, for this year's appropriations within existing rates and the maintenance rather of the 5% reserve requirement. I might mention briefly, if you look at the list of proposed expenditures on the legislative side as opposed to the Governor's side, there are three areas which will account for virtually all of the difference. In the case of deficiencies, the appropriation bill, 924, will carry about \$2.7 million more, correction, \$3 million more than what the Governor originally recommended. His recommendation was \$7.1 million. In addition, there are two other areas, both of which in the Governor's message to the Legislature, he indicated he would have a subsequent message for us as far as to his recommendation. These two items were Corrections. The committee has included \$5.8 million in the bills on capital construction for the structure to be built in Omaha, the medium-minimum security unit. Also included in our recommendation is a little over a million dollars for mental retardation regions, a portion of which is tied to the, as to whether or not any of the individuals that are patients at Beatrice are transferred to regional centers and this, too, was an area which the Governor had indicated he would have a supplemental message for the Legislature. So while we appear to be higher, those two areas that I have indicated may or may not be higher when he has reached his conclusions. The other sheet, the shorter sheet, which was passed out shows the difference which you will see as 4., correction, which indicates the amount of general fund money that we believe to be available for the various A bills and amendments to any of the appropriation bills and it is \$4.7 million. Earlier we had indicated on a number

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