

probably about half the population of the state included in this proposal. And I have to tell you that it's hard to tell your mayor no, you'd like to be able to say yes. I think our mayor has done a very excellent job of balancing the budget, of seeing that some new programs were implemented without increasing the budget too much. I think he has got everything pretty much figured out really except roads and he would like to have some help on roads. But I would remind the body that we don't have enough money for our roads either. Senator Warner could say this much more eloquently than I, but we've got needs in that direction partly because some of the federal money didn't come in that we had expected. I'd also wish we could hear from Senator Lynch tonight because he can tell you about the millions and millions and millions of dollars that the state should be spending on taking care of our own facilities. Some of you who went on that tour of the University of Nebraska at Lincoln, those facilities, you know what awful, terrible, disgraceful shape some of those buildings are in. Now just...I won't go into detail, but they are. Senator Hillman, I heard her speak the other night very eloquently over at a table under the balcony and this was privately, but she was talking about all the money that we should be and haven't been investing in, for instance, in the correctional system. And Senator Byars the other night on the floor talked very eloquently about those people who are developmentally disabled and how much money it would cost to do what we should be doing. And you can argue about the figures that these people talk about but you can't argue about the need. I also would like to say that I don't think that most people realize but about 60 percent of all the monies that the state raises already goes to the local political subdivisions including schools. About another 19 percent of the budget goes to higher education in this state. Now you figure it out, that doesn't leave the state much more than about 20 percent of all the monies that we raise that we actually use for state programs excepting, I'm going to except the higher education programs, those of course are our responsibility, but when you talk about all the federal mandates and all of the programs that we have to implement, that doesn't leave us a lot of discretion. I think that a vote for the sales tax for Omaha and/or Lincoln is a vote for a sales tax increase which I keep hearing that nobody wants to do in this election year. I would say to you that if you're going to vote for doing a sales tax increase, please do it and I'll vote for it to take care of some of the problems and some of the responsibilities...