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FLOOR DEBATE

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into the MIRF program for \$3 million what we have done is we have taken money that would have gone from aid to the municipalities and used that money to take the place of the MIRF money and part of the reason was that one of our municipalities had pledged some of the MIRF money and we tried to protect them because they had pledged that money and this will still supply the money that was concerned with that pledge.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So are you saying money was taken out of the left-hand pocket and put in the right-hand pocket?

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: I think you could say that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Or there's a net benefit to the state...

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...from what...

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: What is the net benefit to the state and when will it be realized, because I'm lost on what you were saying?

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Okay, the net benefit to the state is that, well, this is Senator Thompson's bill. Perhaps I should ask her to respond in that respect...her proposal.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: She said she will.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Okay. Thank you.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So I would ask Senator Thompson.

SPEAKER BROMM: Senator Thompson, please.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you. This is a bill that was advanced by the Revenue Committee in the special session and this time it was referenced to the Appropriations Committee. Our committee took it up. It would have sunsetted the MIRF fund this year and that was our preliminary vote on it. After we made that