

this would come from \$2 million that Metro-Tech now has in their capital fund. They have a levy of thirty-five hundredths of a mill and they are allowed a half a mill and their present levy is thirty-five hundredths which produces \$1.2 million a year. So they have funds available of \$2 million. They would have approximately a year and a half to two years to get this under construction. In that time their mill levy would produce the difference they need. So at the end of the construction without any bonded indebtedness, without raising the mill levy on capital construction, this whole project would be completed and it would be paid for. There would be no debt remaining. I guess in closing, that is the sum and substance of the bill and so it all boils down to this. They can at this point under the law, they can pay \$35 a foot for remodeling but they need this legislation in order to go to new construction and my father had a lot of sayings, truisms. One of his sayings which I think fits this situation, he says, "If you need something, you are going to pay for it whether you buy it or not." And this is where this falls into the category. We are going to spend the money but in order to spend it wisely we need this legislation. Thank you.

SENATOR KAHLE PRESIDING

SENATOR KAHLE: Senator Cullan, you are next.

SENATOR CULLAN: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I am not going to oppose Senator Duda's bill at this point in time but I think this is an appropriate time to take a look at what has happened in the technical community college system over the last several years and particularly, I think, in the metro area. Those of you who are familiar with Metro Technical Community College System I think are familiar with the fact that they built a new campus out in Elkhorn. I have had the chance to visit that campus and to look at it and it is quite an impressive facility. I guess we talk an awful lot about local control and I don't think there are too many people in Omaha, I doubt that there are too many Omaha legislators who believe that that facility should have been constructed prior to this one. We can't go back and correct I think that mistake but I think it bears mentioning here today that we probably would not need Legislative - Bill 827 if there were not some appropriate priorities placed in the capital construction in the Metro Technical Community College system much earlier and now we are going to see a new facility and one that is needed and one that I would even support building with state funds if we were under a state system and we see a need to come today and authorize that with LB 827. So I am not going to oppose the bill,