

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...that is that generally the State of Nebraska responds to a state need whether it is local, to the City of Lincoln, or is outstate and I would hope that we would continue to advance this bill, and as Senator Korshoj says, there may be some compromises but basically I think we understand what our obligation is and I hope we proceed in that direction.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, there is only one other aspect that I wanted to comment on in addition to my earlier remarks, and that relates to the dollar amount of coverage which would be provided through this bill and its appropriation at \$40 million which does, as I understand it, cover a little more than the principal lost in the very modest interest rate, should that be also included, certainly far less than what the interest loss would be at any kind of an average or reasonable level. But I had made up my mind well before this session started that if, in fact, there was some funds that were "surplus", that the one place that would be appropriate would be here. It is one-time money, it is one-time expenditure and I have rather repeatedly opposed a number of, voted no at least, on a number of bills that have been advanced that supposedly was to start new programs or even perhaps one-time money, but this one area is the one area which, as far as I am personally concerned, should have the highest priority on available funds at this time. I don't know that it was necessarily accurate to say that in the past we've rejected it because there was, or the Legislature has rejected because there was shortage of funds. Certainly there was a shortage of funds at times, but by the same token we also found ways to attain additional revenue in order to fund some things or reduce the amount of cuts, but we now have an opportunity it seems to me to at least make some effort to return some confidence in people across the state that when we pass laws that they have reliance upon, that they have confidence in, that in their actions that this will be an opportunity to finally, at least in this area, provide some assurance that when we pass a law that we expect it to be, whether it's enabling legislation or put into operation by the statute itself, at least it would indicate that the state understands that there is a real liability on the part, not perhaps legal, but a real liability and confidence that the people can expect that those laws are going to be followed and that those laws are built in for their protection and, in fact,