

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Conway.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Do you have any knowledge of what surrounding states have had in terms of success with this and, specifically, what kind of money has come in? Has this worked at all to anyone's satisfaction?

SENATOR CONWAY: Senator Wehrbein, the primary state that I worked with originally was looking at Minnesota and their success. Minnesota had their chief enforcement officer down here last year to testify on behalf of this particular procedure. There is quite a bit of variation by virtue of how far they stand in line and possibly how successful other techniques have been. Minnesota, I believe at that time, had about eight months worth of experience and I believe it was around the \$600,000 figure. Part of the situation at any given point in time is how much is assessed versus how much is collected. The assessment, I believe, went over a...well over \$3 million at the initial stage, but at that point in time they had only collected like 600,000. Each and every year I know that Minnesota has been in that it was...far exceeded what their costs were associated with collecting it. But those numbers, like I say, vary depending on whether your...whether it's assessed, whether it's collected and where are they in the stages of process.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: One more question then leading to...if it is assessed and not collectable, what is the status of that particular amount of money? Is that...does that go on and on, or is that just written off in time, or is that another problem?

SENATOR CONWAY: Well, it really shouldn't be a problem any different, any more of a problem than how smooth your process in the state is for collecting any other form of tax lien to the extent to which you have a sheriff's sale, the extent to which the individual who has broken the law has an asset that is salable to the extent of the amount of dollars that are there. If, in fact, you were to come across a situation where there was an individual that was, let's say, in transporting the drugs and had a valuable automobile or some other asset that you could attach to, then your value would be there accordingly and then the extent to which your state laws allow for a smooth system of collection. But I think Nebraska's system is relatively smooth relative to a sheriff's sale and we could expect to at least