

with fairly. But we did go to the Speaker to have LB 577 picked as a Speaker priority and he did agree to do that and so I felt like the issue on a statewide basis would be addressed. Unfortunately, the Speaker's list that included LB 577, 577 got dropped off so it never was officially picked as a Speaker priority, so the next thing was to have it special ordered. Well, we never got around to special ordering it. So, lost in the shuffle of this year's bills is LB 577 which would take the concept embodied by LB 1241 and expand it statewide and attempt to help rural and urban cities and areas across the State of Nebraska. Now I still feel, however, despite the fact that this is focused into north Omaha, does not have the ability to help the whole state, that we need to do this because we can do the other next year. It looks like that's our only option. But it's unfortunate that we weren't able to do it this year because of the objections from Governor Orr and her administration not wanting to have this bill expanded. I still don't understand why that is but that's what caused the problem. But, nevertheless, this bill could mesh neatly with that concept that we could have this legislation help north Omaha target assistance and benefit that area of the state and then take that concept and move it across the state next year, and I think it works quite well. So I happen to believe in this concept, that I happen to believe that north Omaha particularly needs assistance and if they're first to get it, that's okay with me because they're usually the last to get help in so many other ways. At the hearing that we had on the bill, we asked...we asked the individuals who came in from north Omaha about the benefits of LB 775 and all the things that it had done for Omaha. We had the impression that Omaha had benefited greatly from that legislation. And what they said was, no, north Omaha, in one person's quote, would be no way, we got nothing out of that bill, that it was beneficial to some areas of Omaha but north Omaha really did not see much benefit out of LB 775 and so they were back asking for this type of assistance, targeted to their area of the city. And it became quite apparent that that was, in fact, the case that they had been forgotten or left behind and the renaissance of the recovery that Omaha's economy had experienced had not been universal, had missed north Omaha.

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: So, in my estimation, we've passed 775 and we passed other legislation and it seems to have bypassed this area of Omaha and a lot of the rest of the state has been bypassed as