

and justify it, I would have been there. And, Senator Moore, I assure you that this program is functioning better because I am on the board of directors, rather than in spite of it. There are people on that board who would rather I not be there. I have actually had to literally pound the table to emphasize a point, but to the credit of the other board members, with proper emphasis, the point is usually understood, agreed to, and we move right along. And now we have a very smoothly functioning cooperative board. People smile at each other or grimace, which looks the same as a smile, but what we are really looking at are results. I got a letter from John Cochran, who has something to do with Norwest Bank, and he is on the board, and he wrote me a letter about this young man who had this dry wall cutter that he invented, and this is the paragraph that might be of interest. "I wanted to tell you more about Larry Helms' good news," and Larry Helms is mentioned in the handout I gave you, by the way, I didn't know this bill would come up this soon, that is why I didn't have more material to give you. "We got Larry connected with Ron Parks, who heads Miller Manufacturing, Millard," M-i-l-l-a-r-d, "Manufacturing, and they have spent approximately 250 hours together refining Larry's prototype dry wall cutter. Ron helped Larry simplify the design to reduce manufacturing costs and will manufacture 25 of the devices that will sell for \$89 each." Ron has donated all of his time and expertise so far...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...and that is the kind of partnership and cooperation that we want to encourage. And there are other business persons who have shown an interest in this program and have offered to give in kind of assistance and we want to leverage this money as time goes on to wind up with a greater amount. But this million dollars will be needed. If you look at the second page of the handout that I gave you, you will see some of the types of projects that are currently under consideration, that the amount of money currently available is woefully inadequate. Think in terms of the tiny infinitesimally small amount of money that has ever been targeted for north Omaha, and you will see that this is not an unreasonable request that I am making, and I hope you will support it.

SPEAKER BAACK: The next speaker is Senator Abboud.

SENATOR ABBOD: Mr. President. colleagues, I would just like to