

was joking, equated this, and I think he was, to the \$500,000 that the Legislature agreed to add to an appropriation for North Omaha. First of all, that money is not going for a shaky deal, it's not going for one group of speculators. And there has to be a good likelihood of payback before any loans are made out of that money, in the first place, and it's not going to one individual, and it's \$500,000, not \$5 million, where there is no likelihood of payback. If a bank has you to come to them for a loan, and you say, banker, I want you to loan me a dime, and I'm going to put up 12 cents security, you think the banker is not going to make you that loan? What you're putting up in collateral is more than the value of the loan. So here they got scrap value for \$7.9 million, and an operator is going to have to put up at least \$1 million. So you got \$8.9 million to cover a \$5 million loan. If that's true, why don't these people go on and come together and get the loan, if they are so convinced that they can make this a viable, profit-producing line. They cannot, they will not. Suppose the grain market collapses. Yeah, uh-huh, yeah, Senator Nelson, suppose, because Senator Wickersham talks about those things that are in the what-if category. So, if that happens, will that have a bearing on the amount of traffic and the profitability of it? There are so many factors that would be beyond the control of whoever runs this line that it makes this whole thing totally unjustifiable. No matter how deeply Senator Lamb feels this, no matter how sincerely Senator Wickersham argues, no matter how much vacillating there is on the part of Senator Morrissey about it being a good policy, it is bad policy. I was trying to talk long enough for Senator Morrissey to get back to his seat, but maybe he'll speak again, because he has an opportunity to close. But, if you're going to establish this as the policy of the state, not a one-time shot, but the policy of the state, by freezing it in statute, when another piece of line is threatened to be abandoned and the people on that line come in and say, we will hurt more than those people who are on the section that is to be abandoned by CNW, then the Legislature has to help those people by purchasing that stretch of track, too. And, if it's in somebody else's district, how are you going to tell that person Senator Lamb and Senator Wickersham deserve more than what you deserve. And I'd like Senator Lamb, Senator Wickersham, and Senator Morrissey to stand on this floor, this morning, and tell me that there are going to be no more pieces of rail line abandoned or sought to be abandoned...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.