

think whenever we do things like this, and obviously with more transit systems being developed in Nebraska, outside of Lincoln and Omaha, who, the minute they become organized and exist, can be guaranteed 50 percent of their subsidy, do we have to visit this issue. This is one of those things that is important to us. I'm not...to be completely frank and so you understand, in the Appropriations Committee when we first had teachers, we talked about the \$20 million. After talking with the teachers they agreed that we knock that 20 down to 15. One of the reasons I was grateful for that was that by doing that it didn't make room, not only for this and some MR monies, but it also made room for some of the other priorities some of the rest of you had, and some of the A bills that have already gone to the Governor. This is one of those things that's important, I think, and fair, should have been done a long time ago. I regret that it wasn't addressed until they came on the Appropriations Committee, and maybe even forced the issue. Grateful for the support of the Appropriations Committee for the distribution of these funds. And I think I've explains it as well as somebody as incompetent and I can, but I'll try to answer...try to...glad to answer any questions that you might have regarding distribution. By now you probably got the paper, or you're out eating pizza, or wherever you're at, but take a look at it. This is more than justified. I hope you support it.

PRESIDENT MOUL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Lynch. The speaking order is Senator Smith, Senator Hall, and Senator Labeledz. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Madam President. Members of the body, I'm rising to support this effort. I think that we need to remember that transportation service is one of the essential services that we need through out Nebraska. And I hope that the rural senators are listening here, because this may sound like it's something for Omaha, but let me tell you this impacts negatively on the rest of Nebraska transportation services, if this money is disallowed. Equity is the issue here. Helps bring Omaha area, by adding additional subsidy to that region. They are lower in comparison, and some of the money is going to have to be transported, in my understanding, out from the rural parts of Nebraska to impact on the Omaha area, unless they become nearer to the amount of money they should have. They're