

still below by doing this. But remember, these are the kinds of services that the elderly and low income people must utilize. And in many cases, and we know in rural Nebraska this is the kind of service that...the only service that a lot of our elderly folks have. In Omaha, I'm sure, those people that are particularly low income folks, this is their only way of getting about, getting back and forth, et cetera. So this is one that I have to support, even though I'm trying to hold the line on what I'm supporting, this one, I feel, is essential and we must support it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Hall.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President. I rise also to support the motion to override the veto. The issue in Douglas County is one, really, of elderly and handicapped. I have a number of those individuals who rely on the metro system for transportation, on a daily basis. This proposal would allow for the money that the Governor vetoes out to continue to flow to every system in the state, but it is critical to MAT in Omaha. Another thing that we do in statute, right below where we cap the provision that deals with the amount of money that can flow from the Highway Trust Fund, is we also put in statute that for these same riders we will not charge them more than one-half the regular fare. So it's kind of a Catch 22, in that it would be easy to say, well just increase your rates. For the elderly that fall in this category you can't do that, it just doesn't work that way. By statute we're not allowed to charge more than half, if a system receives funds from the state. Well there is no way the system can function, unless they receive funds from as many places as possible. Another issue that affects the metro area, and probably every area that would receive these funds, but even with this appropriation, the Metro Area Transit System, which is a subdivision of government that falls on the property tax statement in Douglas County, they have already refunded, because of the personal property tax filings and the court case, they have refunded, for tax year '89-90, \$204,000, and they will have to refund another \$204,000 for '90-91 tax year. I mean this is really just...it won't...whatever portion of this they receive won't cover what they're going to have to pay back out from that other situation that we've had to deal with because of the refunds. And with regard to the Metro Area Transit as a subdivision of government, you don't think about that when you think about bus service. But they're impacted as well, because of those kinds of decisions. So, you know,