

discrimination. I am convinced that there needs to be a very in-depth study of this matter, especially with the, you know, the efforts that we're trying to undertake in Omaha for economic development so these areas of the airport will take on a more and more important role in the development of our city that if there is going to be a problem between these private interests that have invested significantly in and around the airport, that there be an accommodation reached so that the consumer is protected and the Airport Authority is protected in its ability to raise sufficient revenue so that it will not have to get into the...to start to assess property taxes. It's my understanding that the Airport Authority did at one time assess property taxes. They might have. But, certainly, it's in the interests of our community that...

PRESIDENT MOUL: One minute.

SENATOR ASHFORD: ...that we resolve this effort. And, again, this is...I know, I've talked to Senator Will and he and I, and possibly Senator Hall, this summer, will meet, hopefully, meet with the individuals who are involved in this dispute and to try to iron it out so that legislation will not be necessary. I'm not going to vote either way on this measure and I would certainly go along with Senator Will's advice. Those of you who are not...don't know what to do on this, just abstain but I will pledge to you that I will work on it this summer. I am aware, to some extent, of some of the issues, having been involved with some of the rental car companies in the past on prior legislation. So I would be very happy to work on it and I know Senator Will will do that as well. So, with that, I'm going to abstain from voting and...but send a clear message to the Airport Authority that we need to get this matter ironed out and the proper way is to have...the proper way to handle this legislation would be through a hearing, which this did not have, and a thorough debate of the issues.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Time.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Ashford. Senator Lynch.

SENATOR LYNCH: Madam President and members, I would also echo the things that were said by Senator Ashford and Senator Will. The Airport Authority is in my district. I can't honestly tell