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local government in Nebraska we share our tax base with quite like we do the cities of the State of Nebraska. Obviously the sales tax, which is a dynamic growing tax base, the cities are the only ones who can tap into that as well as that keno tax base and I know counties have some counties there, but the keno tax base is another one that at least particular local governments have. And so I mean I don't think the MIRF cut is that onerous. I in no way, shape or form want to do away with the program. As I said the other day, I think we need to revisit it. I don't think the million and a half dollar reduction, the 33.5 percent reduction is certainly unreasonable when you look at the big picture in totality of what has happened over the years with spending increments like that. And so that, coupled with the fact that it's worth \$2.6 million, and Senator Schellpeper's last amendment was \$2.5 million. You know, you've taken \$5 million off the table this morning and you're getting down to the 95, \$90 million range, I won't question the Governor's 118, but you're getting further and further away from what the Governor laid out and I think you're going to get into danger then. Does this amendment by itself create the need to revisit the level of across-the-board reduction at the university and all the state agencies? Well, you know, by the end of the day it certainly might. I think it's something we have to keep in consideration so with that I'd simply rise to oppose Senator Schellpeper's amendment and encourage the body to stand firm in their commitment to take a bite out of MIRF as we have over the years a variety of other people as well and disagree with Senator Schellpeper's statement that they are being treated much more unfairly than everybody else. And when you look at the entire picture, I don't think that's necessarily true.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Moore. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members. There was an editorial last night in the Lincoln Journal about some of us who did oppose the MIRF bill when it was first adopted being able to do an "I told you so," but I'm not going to take advantage of that. In fact, do as Senator Moore does, rise in opposition to the Schellpeper proposal. We are essentially giving something like 3 cents a year away to the cities to help with their infrastructure activity of the cigarette tax. And I have long argued the cigarette tax, the 27 cents of the cigarette tax, 1 cent goes to health care, that being cancer research. Other than that, the other 26 cents goes to ncnrelated buildings,