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affects every city, whether large or small, according to their population. That's what's so good about MIRF. They get money according to their actual population. It's fair; it's fair for everyone. I'd like to give Senator Landis part of my time. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, I too rise to support the Schellpeper amendment. I was the original introducer of the measure that's under question now. It was my hope that this would be an income stream that would not be altered over the life of the 20 years. Unfortunately, times have caught up with us, and even the municipalizes recognize that to the point of extending to this body the opportunity of a 5 percent cut in MIRF with no objection from them. I joined them in that. Remember that what MIRF attempts to do is to find an income stream to do the kinds of things that government does not get called upon by their citizenry to do, but that are in the long-term interests of citizens. There are a number of services that people clamor for, call out for, and have a strong political agenda. It is not the case that infrastructure is oftentimes among that list of the most attractive kinds of political services which can be purchased with tax dollars. In the City of Lincoln, I can tell you that we've used this money to make accommodations for disabilities. That's not something for which there's a widespread clamoring. There is, of course, a federal mandate and obligation to take action, but there isn't some large powerful outcry from the public demanding those kinds of changes which need to be made in our infrastructure. We've also made changes in our sewer system. I can tell you that when people come down and clamor in large numbers before the city council it's not for sewer system changes, unless you're in the narrow area that have the problem. It's the kind of thing that gets overwhelmed come budget time by the competing demands of more vocal short-term interests that city councils have to deal with. MIRF has been there to give some relief and some assistance to the long-term interests of cities which do no carry with them the kind of...

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...powerful political action and organizations that sometimes can dictate the way that city budgets are spent. It's been money well invested and in fact the word invested is