

These bonds are not sold on the MIREF money, they are not sold on the MIREF money. If you want to continue the state supporting that as a legitimate policy reason, I'm not critical of anyone for doing that. But do it and understand what you're doing. You know when they talk about the huge amount of reduction and how awful the cities are being treated in comparison to everybody else, and if you look just at MIREF, that's absolutely right. But like I said this morning, how about the \$17 million in general state aid? How about the \$100 million already collected in local sales taxes? How about the \$55 million given out in Highway Trust Fund and gas taxes? How about the \$9 million in keno revenue that has been realized by cities since we passed MIREF? How about all those things? Are we cutting any of those \$180 million things? No, untouched, untouched. In the meantime, in that period of time, did we cut state aid to education? Well, we passed a bill to try (inaudible) 45 percent, now it's 41 percent. Did we cut teachers salaries from 20 to... Senator Lynch, we cut teachers salaries more than in half, down to \$7 million, we did that since we passed MIREF. We've already done some across-the-board cuts in state agencies. We delayed LB 830 earlier today. We've done all these things because the reality forced us to do that, unfortunately. And the one that really sticks in my craw, I've mentioned it before, Senator Nelson mentioned it, I passed it out, when we passed MIREF we appropriated \$5.5 million for our own 309 Fund, which does the same type of things MIREF is supposed to do, is to do those things that we, as policy-makers, aren't willing to put the up front money to do; 309, I mean right now, today, we have 14 million Class I deferrals that you really need to do within the next 12 months, \$14 million. We used to appropriate \$5 million, now we only appropriate 2. There are roofs, there are buildings that we are in danger of losing. We can only appropriate \$2 million. Would I like to appropriate more? Yes. But heaven forbid, we can't touch MIREF, we can't touch it. I mean it's...there's a legitimate policy to be made there, but you have to think about it in the big picture. We're not punishing the cities, we're not treating them in any way, shape, or form unfairly. And if you agree with the first Schellpeper amendment, or the Conway amendment, or the second Schellpeper amendment, you've already went a long ways away from Senator Landis' revenue stream argument. You're already willing to give up on that, so what's the difference. If you agree with Senator Schellpeper's amendment, which the body may well do, at least you got a million. And I'm not going to beef over that, but you got to come back in, next year, and