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funds away from the cities and villages, the only way that they can make that back up is to raise property taxes. I certainly don't want to see property taxes raised any more. And, Senator Moore, you're talking about state government and 309 funds, I just want to cite you an incident in Norfolk, Nebraska, just this last year, and Senator Richard Peterson preached on that last session. We had a building at the Norfolk Regional Center that could have been made into a fairly good building for 3 or 4 hundred thousand, maybe a half a million. But what happened? No, they didn't want to do that. They went downtown, and I don't know how much rent they're paying, they're paying a whole bunch. And so is that good state government? I don't think it is, because at the Norfolk Regional Center we have other divisions of the Department of Social Services out there. But here we go, we let them do that. But we want to balance our budget on the backs of local government and I think this is wrong. So I would urge you to support the Schellpeper amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK PRESIDING

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hefner. Senator Ashford.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I'm going to vote against this amendment, I really mean it this time, Mr. Speaker. (Laughter.) Thank you, Mr. Speaker, very much. That's all I have. I'll need the full five minutes to get into the next sentence, thanks, Senator Nelson. (Laughter.) What I'm going to propose, if this amendment fails, Mr. Speaker, is that we delay the implementation of this cut until January 1st of 1994. That takes care of the budget problems that the City of Omaha has and continues the program on for another six months, allowing us to take a look at it next year. But I am also convinced, by the arguments Senator Moore has made, that this is probably a cut that we're going to have to eventually take. The inequity of it is not so much in the...in the fact that at some point we're going to have to make the cut. The inequity is if we intervene in the middle of the budget process, that does result in an inequity. But I know this is a cut that we are eventually, I believe a cut we are eventually going to have to take. And, with that, I'm going to vote against the amendment, and then if that fails offer the implementation date change to January 1, 1994. Thank you.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Ashford. Senator Wehrbein.