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SENATOR WESELY: Well, it's a proposal. But again, I'm indicating to you that without a housing trust fund, without initiative from the state, it's a two-way street, and there's only one-way going right now. So that's why we're not seeing much progress.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Okay. So it's your understanding then...this will be my last question for you. It's your understanding then that the framework is set up now for Fannie Mae to, in fact, do these innovative ideas if we create this trust fund?

SENATOR WESELY: It's being negotiated right...I've just been told it's being negotiated right now, and they are looking at, in part, what happens with this legislation as to what happens with this proposal.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Okay. I wanted to make sure, Mr. President, that the members understood that this is not an existing program that is available to Nebraska at this point in time. Regardless of whether we move forward or not, Fannie Mae still has to make a decision whether or not these funds would be available to Nebraska through this empowerment plan or through the rebate. So once again, I have to get back to my main point, and that main point is not that we don't have an affordable housing concern in the state of Nebraska. The concern is, from my perspective, we need to continue to address this at the local level, and we certainly don't have the capacity or the capability, at this point in time, of appropriations being put forth by the Legislature. Thank you.

SENATOR BERNAKD-STEVENS: Thank you, Senator Maurstad. Senator Robinso..

SENATOR ROBINSON: Mr. President, members of the body, I knew we were going to talk about money, I just had a feeling. I think Senator Maurstad's amendment is a good amendment. Do we have to have that in the bill this year? Let's get the task force formed, and then come back and tell us what's going to happen to the money. You hear that, people? Support the Maurstad amendment. Let us come back next year or the year after and talk about what we're going to do with the money. Same question rose with me on the Fannie Mae's. You mean if we don't have the task force, that money is not available? There are a lot of