

where you were putting us. I think one of the things, and you, if you could address this, that cities have been, in my estimation, and counties to a certain extent, but I think cities even more, have been innovators. And they have used, in some case, if I want to call them discretionary funds, I'm not sure if that's the correct term, but you will have areas where there may be small towns who was losing a doctor and those kinds of services. And so they would perhaps purchase the building and make sure that the services of that doctor was retained. And there may have been other avenues where the city may have stepped in to, to make sure that some basic services in that town, in many instances I'm going to say a small town, although larger towns have done some different things too, so I guess all municipalities. But in looking that certain services were provided that they could maintain, what I'm going to call, the population base there. And it was to retain people in the community, so that they wouldn't, you know, shift to some place else. If we're looking at that box with the restricted funds in it, some of the initiatives, perhaps, that they've done in the past, if you're...will they have the autonomy to continue to do those things do you think? Or, looking at that restricted fund box, will that not be able to happen?

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Senator Kristensen.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: We, thank you, Senator Hillman. We also have some other things that are in there in terms of capital improvements that specifically, and if you have this amendment that we're debating,...

SENATOR HILLMAN: Um-hum.

SENATOR KRISTENSEN: ...you'll see that capital improvements mean things like acquisition of real property, equipment other than routine maintenance that have a useful life, in effect, really more than five years. And those sorts of things are exceptions so they are not counted. And, in effect, they're a capital improvement and so they'll be outside of those restrictions and those percentages of expenditure restrictions we have.

SENATOR HILLMAN: So, in, just trying to look at a scenario here, if I own a electrical company, if I was a city and I owned the electrical company, and I didn't plow everything back into