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happened. Douglas County, I spoke with Senator...former Senator Carol Pirsch from this body, who is now the president of the county board, and several of the other county commissioners, and they are in full agreement saying that Douglas County does not actually need this money, and they are saying please give it to Omaha because they do bear the brunt of the cost of government in the county. So I'm asking you please to consider this, to vote to approve this. It would apply only to Douglas County. It would apply to all the cities in that county because, in fact, the county itself does not need the money. And so it reverses the 18 percent and the 22 percent that you see in the formula. It would not affect any other county in the state of Nebraska, and I would ask you please to vote for it.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Redfield. For discussion on AM0571 to LB 142, Senator Wickersham.

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Thank you, Mr. President. I suppose that this is one of the amendments that Senator Redfield is bringing to you and eventually her plea might be, well, everybody agrees to this, why don't you do it. The only two major political subdivisions that are impacted by this, she says, and she's correct, have signed off and said it's okay, flop the allocation for us, the county doesn't care if the revenues go to the municipality. And she's provided you a rationale for doing that based on population. I'm...Senator Redfield, I don't know how you should take this. I'm in...in some respects, I'm indifferent to your amendment because you're right. If people...if the affected entities agree to it and they don't care, in particular, how the allocation of dollars are going to go in that area, why should we object? I will note for the body that we often make special accommodations for either Douglas County or for a city of the metropolitan class, and that's not inappropriate and I'm not sure that it's inappropriate this time. I'm not going to suggest to you that it isn't. But I am going to suggest to you that what Senator Redfield proposes, while it looks simple and while it looks agreeable, may also encourage others to bring exceptions and to make changes that will...that will, over time, diminish the simplicity of the proposal that the committee has presented to you. If you examine the capacities of both Douglas County and the city of Omaha, that is their existing property tax capacities, levy