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SENATOR CHAMBERS: This is a program where federal money would be made available. They won't even request the federal money to aid these areas that I'm concerned about, but they'll bring a bill down here to say we want a \$210 million boondoggle that's going to raise the taxes on the citizens of Omaha. And these senators who say they're against tax increases are going to vote for it. I may have a few seconds. I'm not in that number. And based on the reaction that I'm getting, I could probably run for dog catcher in Omaha and win this time.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Your light is on next.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I'm going to read the article so that it won't seem like I am skewing anything just to make my point. This is the article: Having been reinvented again, a controversial economic development program for parts of north and south Omaha is stalled again while city government looks for someone to manage it. The program is the so-called "one-stop capital shop". It is designed to help those in designated enterprise communities with financing for starting or expanding businesses. Enterprise communities were established in north and south Omaha in 1994 with a \$2.95 million block grant from the federal government. Of the grant, \$2.2 million has been committed with \$745,000 going to operate the Catholic Charities Campus of Hope Center for treating chemical dependency and that is not even the kind of project that was to be funded because it's supposed to start new businesses. Other expenditures include programs of the Urban League of Nebraska, Omaha 100, and Mercy Housing said Scott Knudsen, K-n-u-d-s-e-n, enterprise zone coordinator for the city of Omaha. About \$800,000 is...in remaining grant money is designated for a program that would guarantee 20 percent of loans to businesses in the designated areas, he said. The city is advertising for an organization to manage the program and work as a liaison between borrowers and lenders, Knudsen said. The last time the program was started fresh was in January, 1998. That was after a nonprofit group, New Community Development, that had been hired to run it, backed out amid discussions about how much of the grant would be used for administrative fees. At the time, New Communities director, Michael Maroney, said the enterprise zone board should have the