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allow neighborhood associations and small rural communities access to the smaller forms of funding that they would not have access to otherwise. Understand that they don't have access, for the most part, to the large grant programs and to the large amounts of funding. Oftentimes what they need is a simple program where they can go get a smaller amount of funding in order to do a project. And I think it's very important to recognize that oftentimes these are the projects that truly do improve the life of either the neighborhood or the community. And I would remind everybody who has been listening that economic development has to go hand in hand with community development. You cannot have one without the other, or you don't have very good development without the other. Community development improves economic development, just as economic development improves communities. We need to be able to provide communities and neighborhoods the ability to do those things on that local level that improve the environment of the neighborhood and improve the environment of the community. And again, I would ask my colleagues for their support. Thank you.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Kiel. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Madam President. Again, I have to rise and oppose. You know, this is one of the difficult things you do as a legislator, stand up and oppose these kinds of initiatives that certainly benefit a lot of people. But as Senator Wehrbein pointed out, the benefits are already there. My county got \$2,000 out of the Microenterprise Fund. Saunders County got \$43,000, Douglas County \$210,000, Custer County \$71,000, Dawson County \$30,000. All across the state. You know who didn't get any money, just at all? Some of the very small counties of this state. A number of us got nothing. Are we going to continue to send that money into the larger communities? And basically, that's what it looks like it's doing. I don't have any problem with that, it's just that, should we expend more money into that when we, with the legislation that I and Senator Wehrbein have put together, are trying to do something for some of these rural counties. I don't oppose the urban counties. I think they need the support. But from what I'm able to see here, they're already getting that kind of support. And now, to take another chunk of money away from the program that we worked hard to get before this body and