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have to ask and I do support the override for Metropolitan Area Transit. It's a \$400,000 shot. It still doesn't come anywhere close to meeting the unmet need and I would...I want to close with this and I'd ask all your help to do this. Maybe we can get together sometime and talk, to have a public hearing through Transportation Committee or whatever else it might be, and talk to the Highway Department to see if they understand how serious the problem is, and how public property tax dollars should not be used for this purpose, and how, in fact, to help develop the equity we should have across the state. A higher allocation is made, even if it's not so that we can get 50 percent in Lincoln and Omaha, at least get more than we are and to prevent having to come to this Legislature all the time with requests like this and the threat of raising rates so that people that need the system can afford to ride it and the taxpayers who support it can afford to support it. So I...I would ask for...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR LYNCH: ...your support again. This is worthy legislation and override.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Lynch. Senator Hilgert.

SENATOR HILGERT: Senate...thank you, Mr. President, members. I think Senator Lynch said everything that I was going to say, except that as he congratulated and did properly give compliment to Bob Curtright (phonetic), the executive director, also I would also like to say that there's a lot of...a lot of good conscientious employees that work for MAT as well. They do a fine job, they respect the people that they serve and they have, I think, a good working relationship with management, and the entire Metro Area Transit should be congratulated on that. I certainly rise to support this line-item override. I've said before on this floor, if all political subdivisions was as conscientious as Mr. Curtright (phonetic) and the folks at MAT, we wouldn't have a property tax problem in this state. Their revenues have actually gone down. Their reliance is flat. They've done a remarkable job. And there's not much more I can say than what others have said, but it is interesting that this year we did have kind of a spook on the rising cost of oil and the availability and the dependence on foreign oil and one of