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PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Senator, thank you. Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I appreciate the dialogue Senator Beutler and Senator Schimek are having. Senator Schimek, I guess I will have some questions too, and they're general, a lot along what Senator Beutler is, and I'll...if we could have a third party into this, I'd let Senator Beutler come too. But is this...a lot of this money appropriated already, you think, at the federal level?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: The remainder isn't. I've got to ask about the \$5 million. There is \$1.5 billion...(laugh) I had to make sure that I was going to say that right...\$1.5 billion in the omnibus budget bill, and so I think it is a matter of time until we get the money.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: That may be part of...our \$5 million may be part of that.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yeah.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Would that be?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: And maybe even some of the rest of that 20.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Perhaps I'm a little naive. I'm guessing that as big an issue as this was nationwide in the last three, four years, that that money would probably be as likely to follow...probably more likely to follow than disaster payments for agriculture, quote, if I may be cynical. (Laugh)

SENATOR SCHIMEK: You may be. (Laughter)

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: And I'm in the same concern that Senator Beutler has, that we get trapped. And I think you've done a lot on that, and I haven't followed as closely. I have talked to my fiscal analysts and when Senator...when Mr. Gale comes in for his hearing, I think we ought to consider, like I raised the issue yesterday, about making this an "appropriateable" fund, even if it is federal funds, or something, to be sure that