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FLOOR DEBATE

March 25, 2003      LB 608

airport...aircraft, rather, exemptions. A total of \$6 million has to be added, has to be added to the state aid formula just to make up for the tax forgiveness that we do in the property taxes for LB 775 companies. For example, the Dakota IBP plant forces us to add about \$250,000 of state aid from you and I to make up for Dakota County, because of the tax forgiveness of the IBP plant up there. Douglas's ConAgra Nebraska project too requires \$600,000 of state aid per year to make up for the property that's now been exempted by LB 775. The Douglas Millard Processing Services, which is a pork processing plant,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...requires \$290,000 of money to be made up by you and I in state aid because we exempt this property from taxation. The Platte Minnesota Corn Processors milling plant in Columbus requires about \$650,000 of state aid to make up for their schools what's exempted in their area. You and I are paying for this right and left, and all we're asking is a burger flipper's wage in return? It's not enough. We did this to save ConAgra. It is an embarrassment to think that the best we can ask for in return for \$2 billion of tax forgiveness is a wage sufficient to stay on food stamps. Not good enough. The committee was right. The Pederson amendment sells out Nebraska. It's too cheap. We need to ask more. If we need a rural tier, we've got a suggestion that was already filed. I'll refile if we need it. But this is too low.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. The treats that you're receiving are for Senator Brashear's birthday, which has since passed, but he wanted to treat the body. So they are in honor of Senator Brashear's birthday. Let's give him a hand. (Applause) Thank you, Senator Brashear, and happy birthday. On with discussion of the Pederson amendment, AM0883 to FA1207, the fourth component of the divided committee amendments to LB 608. Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Mr. President, and members of the body, last week I passed out a sheet giving the income statistics on first-class cities in the state. Where have LB 775 projects