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LB 622, 758, 759

amount of money that we're authorizing after the cuts. So, we're going to give it \$11.3 million in the personal property tax replacement; we're going to give \$500,000 to MIRF; and we're going to do \$12.5 million in MEF, for a total of \$24 million of aid. The total amount of cuts that we're going to do this year are \$1.8 million for the first program, 2.5 for the second, and then we're going to do two years, essentially, of the MEF program, and that's going to be 3.3. It totals out \$7.6 million. And that, as I said, is about a 24 percent cut; not 32, about 24. By the way, the highway allocation, which is \$86 million to cities, is untouched. And in fact, there's \$5 million more this year than there was last year, so that's to the good. Now, while we're going to cut cities \$7.6 million, in this biennium, for seven months of new revenue, we project \$5.7 million of new revenue. And next year, when there's a full year. .that's LB 759...that's going to be \$10.4 million. So for this year, because we double the MEF, and because we only get seven months of tax revenue, there would be a total drop of about \$1.9 million in what cities get under these three programs. One point nine million dollars, that would be the sum total of what they'd lose if you added all the cities up and balanced what we give them in aid and what we do in the creation of the sales tax base that they're going to get. One of the arguments is, but this doesn't match up well. And by the way, that's a pretty legitimate argument. However, understand that they've got a sledgehammer to solve a nail problem. You know this money that we're talking about? This is money that was going to be distributed per capita. Do you know how much of the people of the state of Nebraska live in a city that has a sales tax and that's going to get that new LB 759 money? Eighty-eight percent. So what we're going to do is we're going to undo all of the cut, because 12 percent of the population will suffer an injury that won't be remedied by LB 758. You know what would solve this problem? An amendment that said, we stop the overages where it is, we take \$300,000 more, and we distribute it to cities without sales taxes. That's different than 3.3 million bucks. It's different than adding the sales tax money to cities that are going to get their expanded tax base and the overage. It would be exactly the solution for exactly the people that are suffering the problem. But what the cities ask for here is, you know what, undo the whole thing. Under the