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LB 622, 758

underlying bill in its current form. But I would reach out to the argument made by Senator Mines that there are small-town cities in Nebraska who will not get the advantage of LB 758, and who will have fewer means because of the operation of the amendment to LB 622. And here's what the amendment says. Of the overage, after we've done equalization, we'll do \$300,000 on a per capita basis to the cities that don't have sales tax. What does that mean? That means, of the 12 percent of city or urban or town or village dwellers that don't have a sales tax, spread out over probably 400 communities, or 370 communities, they would distribute on a per capita basis about 300,000 bucks, which is about the share they would have gotten anyway from the program. Now, who's not going to get a benefit? Lincoln, Omaha, first class cities, people that are getting the sales tax now. They're not going to get any benefits. They're going to be minus the restricted fund. But that's in LB 622 as it is now. I got to say that at the point at which, if I heard Senator Vrtiska right, and it might have been Senator Stuthman, I'm not sure, who said, gosh, if we do anything for the cities we're going to have to do something for the counties...I guess it was Senator Jones. Thank you. I got to tell you, I'm not starting an auction here. This is meant to be the last attempt to try to find something in the middle that we could live with, not the first. And in fact, at the point that I thought Senator Jones or Senator Vrtiska would be successful by going back into the aid packages for counties, I'd probably just take a gun out and blow my head off right here, and we'd all be done, and that would be the end of this amendment. But maybe you want that. Who knows? I will tell you this. Senator Wehrbein signed on the amendment, Senator Mines has signed on the amendment, and Senator Raikes has signed on the amendment. It's meant to be a good faith attempt to respond to a legitimate argument, with limited means, leaving the vast majority of this money where it should be, which is in our General Fund and our Cash Reserve, but \$300,000 for small-town Nebraska, that doesn't have a sales tax, that doesn't get the benefits of LB 758. Yes or no, I'll live with whatever you want. It's an attempt to find a middle ground. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. You've heard the opening on the motion to return LB 622 for a specific amendment.