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FLOOR DEBATE

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levy...although it's better than it was before; and then in addition cities allowing...being allowed specifically...there's one, I think, a usage fee, defines...I think it's on page 3, Section 3(4), it says, cities shall levy 7 cents, and as opposed to maybe the word "may." As a corrective measure, I also might mention that in the language, I...or, excuse me, on the debate on the floor I hear, Lincoln, Omaha, and South Sioux City. And very hurriedly going through the amendment, it looks like it's cities of the metropolitan, primary, and first class. Is...am I right?

SENATOR SCHROCK: That's correct.

SENATOR MINES: All right. There are 31 cities of the first class, and that would be any city with a population over 5,000. And I notice in the amendment villages are named, and village boards are identified. In fact that should be stricken from the language, because no village will meet that criteria if we're looking at those 31 cities. Again, I think the funding mechanism is obviously the...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR MINES: ...contention here, bone of contention. And I'm not...you've moved me a little bit to the center. I want to listen to more debate, and...although some of it seems restrictive, and yield the rest of my time back to the Chair, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Mines. Senator Friend, on the Natural Resources Committee amendment.

SENATOR FRIEND: Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, if you looked at your committee statement, you've probably already seen. I'm not going to toss a lot of accolades toward Senator Schrock. I respect Senator Schrock as much as anybody on this floor. I know what he's capable of, and I appreciate the fact that I'm on the Natural Resources Committee. It's a great committee. If that sounds like an accolade, wait till you hear what's coming right now. (Laughter) I had four major concerns coming out of committee with this bill. I...the