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information provided to us, it appears the Nebraska's recent drops in fair attendance and revenue are not unique. Eight of the states provided us with attendance estimates for all five years. Two of these states reported that attendance at the fair increased each year. Like Nebraska, the other five states reported a drop in attendance in either 2000, 2001 or both. Five states provided us with annual profit and loss figures for each state between 1997 and 2000. Two states showed a net loss each year. Of the three states that showed a profit in these years, two, like Nebraska, showed a drop in revenue in 2000. Now we don't have updated, this is the most recent information, but what's happening here in Nebraska I just want to point out that at this point in time report from our research staff, other states were hitting some of the same barriers that our State Fair is. And I think that in the questions that we've had on the Appropriations Committee and asking for business plans and how this can be structured and how it can move forward and how it could be redesigned, I'm, at this point in time, not confident that we should be putting on the ballot a request for the taxpayers to consider \$2 million to the State Fair. And...

SPEAKER BROMM: One minute.

SENATOR THOMPSON: ...I'm sure you know my bias is for the core activities and the core responsibilities of the state. And this is a nice thing. It's something, as Senator Pederson said, that's based in nostalgia and good feelings about a prior era. And the world changes, and sometimes we just can't save everything. And right now we need to save other things, and clearly our commitment to education and the environment I think should be the first priority and we should leave things as they are. Thank you.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Senator Thompson. Senator Brashear.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. Speaker, members of the body, when I realized yesterday that we had moved from the water bill, and I thank you all for all of the hard work that you were doing on the water bill, I was doing Judiciary Committee work, I promise you, and we will make forward progress, I came up to listen to this debate and I don't know whether I...I want to participate