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FLOOR DEBATE

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Schrock has heard me carry on about this and has not disputed those numbers whatsoever. If I'm wrong, tell me. I'll vote for it. And again, I want to say I feel that this is probably one of the most important bills that we will have to deal with this year, but I'm also saying that the budget is important. We can't fund what we have. How are we going to fund new programs? And that's what this is. We're asking to be...to raise property taxes here, we're asking to raise property taxes once the budget comes up, and I'm saying I'm struggling as to how to do it. This is not misleading whatsoever. If this isn't 15...\$14.5 million per year, correct me. But my numbers, the numbers available to all of you, indicate that it is. If I'm wrong, clarify. I'm not going to vote for this amendment, but I'm not going to speak on it again, because I told Senator Bromm I would not. But I'm really struggling with this. Anyone in here that's thinking about it, that's looking at what's going on, that's analyzing the budget, they should have troubles going forward with this as well.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Further discussion on AM3199? Seeing no lights on, Senator Schrock, you're recognized to close on advancement.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Bourne, I get the last...why don't you and I sit down between now and Select, assuming we get there, and talk about this? I do think you are misreading it wrong. I will tell you this. There's only two NRDs that are budgeting up to the 4.5 cents levy they have now, and that's the Nemaha NRD and the Upper Republican. And the Nemaha NRD probably won't use any money to implement the Water Task Force bill provisions because there's really, essentially, no irrigation in that area and no surface water irrigation. The Papio NRD will not use this, just won't do it, because they don't have any issues when it comes to irrigation in the Papio NRD. So this isn't a 1 cent levy increase for the city of Omaha because, under the provisions of this amendment, the money can only be used to implement the provisions of the Water Task Force, and the Papio NRD has no issues when it comes to implementing the provisions of this bill. I don't want to belabor that. That's just the way it is. I will tell you this. I would love to go back to the days when