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fire suppression. Yes, they do good things. Yes, the volunteer firefighters do good work, but who pays for it? Here we have another cost item. Here we have another choice. Here we have an opportunity to see what our priorities are going to be. And people are saying, yes, this is very important. Yes, we need it. Well, so many of the other things that we're doing are important, and they are needed as well. And this is the dilemma that we keep facing. People don't want to let go of the services. We don't end up thinking about ways to restructure and to find other sources of funding for some of these programs, to find other ways of getting the services provided. Yes, they're matching funds. We bring in those, but those are tax dollars as well. So this is another one of our choices. This is another one of the dilemmas. This is another one of the situations where each of us gets to cast our vote to decide is this one of the real important things that we need to provide as we're faced with these budget shortfalls and cutting back in other areas. We've made some cuts. I still hope that we can provide more cuts. I'm being very cautious in the things that I vote for and I'm looking for some additional cuts. This is one where I'm not sure if I'm going to vote for it or just not vote at all, rather than vote against it. But it's a choice and it's another tough choice and some are going to be even tougher. Each of us makes our own decision on what's the most important and where our priorities lie, and I'm struggling with those priorities. And this is one of those choices that like each of you I'm now faced with. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Preister. Senator Louden.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Yes, thank you, Mr. Speaker, and Mr. President and members of the body. I would take issue with Senator Preister's idea that this is a tough choice. I don't think it is a tough choice. First of all, I don't think it should have ever been cut to start with. This is federally funded for over half of the funding. This is something that it's an industry in Nebraska. This is something that we can't afford to lose our forest that we have. And this is something that takes care of trees in your cities and towns. And if you lose out on your Forest Service, you may wake up one morning and have some type of a tree disease in your area and you may not have any trees.