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SENATOR BRASHEAR: ...under any and all circumstances is truly ridiculous. It defies reality. Do you really think we never use bonds for indebtedness? Our cities, our counties, our political subdivisions, our university, our state colleges all use bonds. And the people of the state of Nebraska have authorized us to use bonds for highway construction. Why are we making this so difficult? Why, when it's in our constitution, aren't we willing to consider it?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brashear and Senator Don Pederson for recognizing my friends and neighbors. On with discussion, Senator Redfield.

SENATOR REDFIELD: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I rise in support of the amendment and that probably is a shock to most of my colleagues because, in fact, I'm not known for being willing to increase taxes. But I've been listening to the discussion and I've been asking myself what we expect of the governmental units that we have responsibility for. Well, we ask them to plan, we ask them to lay out a plan that is very clear cut and efficient, and that's very difficult to do when, in fact, they can't plan from year to year what, in fact, they will have to spend. Now I support downward pressure on spending. I will support amendments to reduce the spending that we have before us even yet this year. But Senator Tyson says, well, what would happen if we do nothing? Well, what will happen if we do nothing here is we will, in fact, go back to the state aid formula which we have already certified and we can't afford it. So that's not an option. Senator Maxwell said that perhaps by doing nothing we would create pressure on coming back next year and finding a creative solution. That's true. But let's go back to my first statement and that is should the schools be the pawn in that kind of a discussion? Or should they, in fact, be able to plan their hiring, their programs, and all of the other responsibilities that we have laid out for them as a state? I don't believe they should be the pawn. I think that we should have a concrete plan to lay out before them. What is my hope? My hope certainly would be that before the \$1.10 kicks in that we could be able to come back and find some kind of spending relief in our budget and certainly the programs that we are responsible for. And I do believe that the Wehrbein