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FLOOR DEBATE

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issue is small enough for them to grasp, and they will participate. But I'm wondering if there's something else. But be that as it may, I feel like what Senator Don Pederson told us, and was suggested by others. Senator Raikes kind of opened the door. These people see the Legislature as a cash cow. All the Senators have to do is make an appeal to nostalgia and the good old days, and the Legislature will send the money pouring out to them. Not one person has given a fiscally sound reason for us to give away this \$306,000. If there are plans to seek this help other places, let them do it. But as Senator Pederson pointed out in the minutes, if the Legislature is going to give it, let the Legislature do it. And we will not be surprised to find that to be people's attitude. I mentioned earlier this morning, the path of least resistance is the one that's going to be followed, and the Legislature is the sucker. Now there are others who are going to try to take money from substantive programs that deal with the core responsibilities of the state. And here we are talking about giving money to the State Fair, and the money does not go to brick and mortar. That money was left alone by my amendment that brought us to where we are now. Senator Bourne kept talking about taking money from the children. Now we see it's paying the stipend, the salary, whatever it is, for these grown people to come here and judge and do other things. This is not about children. This is a political move to rescue a dead entity. That's all that it is. Efforts to try to move the State Fair to a location closer and more accessible to the young people who may participate have been rebuffed. Those who have a hold on this don't want to let it go. Senator Raikes pointed out the free use of land. They don't have to pay anything for that. And with all that has been done to help this operation, it's dying on the vine. Some things just have to be allowed to pass away. Talking about what's happening in other states is totally irrelevant. If I pointed out that 12 or 13 other states don't have a death penalty, it would not even raise a ripple. You would not even let it register in your mind. So you're going to tell me that in some other states people tell you that state fairs get so much and so much money, therefore the same thing ought to be done in this state? That does not wash. This thing ought to stand on its own merits, and it has none. It cannot survive. You talk about all this love for the State Fair. I'm going to