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right with me at this moment, but Medicaid is eating us alive. and aid to individuals and TEEOSA approximate 50 percent of our state budget. And these are going up almost 10 percent. And when you look at that and you see that over the period of time our revenue stream has been approximately 5 percent increase, you say, what's...how is this going to work? And if ... what's going to be lost? What's going to be lost are those other things that involve the welfare of the state of Nebraska. It involves our higher education. It involves K-12 education. It involves our healthcare. And all of the various things that we need are economic development. We need economic development in this state, so there's a job for our students when they graduate from high school and from college. this very badly. We need to provide money for that. And I'm concerned that currently we're not providing enough for any of those things. But if you take \$5 million out of our budget by way of increased revenue, you are limiting the number of things that we can do as a state, things that we must do to develop our state's future. And I'm deeply concerned about this. I'm sorry that I have to be here with the wet blanket, as you might say. But I think it's something that we have to recognize. We...in Appropriations Committee, we hear nothing but good proposals. And it's just that we hear a lot of proposals we can't afford. I know the Revenue Committee hears a lot of proposals that they think we can't afford either. And I'm suggesting that this bill, although very well-intentioned, calling for us to lose, essentially, \$5 million the first two years, and, if it's a successful program and goes for four years and they get a lot more, we're going to have a lot more loss of revenue.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: And we simply can't afford that. Senator Landis the other day referred to some other means by which this maybe has some problems, about the potential ill use of the device. And I'm not going to go into that. I'm simply going to tell you that as the Chairman of your Appropriations Committee, I think that we can't go back to where we were when we thought we were having 13 percent income, and spending things in a discretionary manner. We have to make certain that we are, (A)