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encourage the passage of this with whatever cap we can agree on as we work through this. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Connealy. Senator Beutler. Senator Beutler, on the Mines amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Wehrbein, could I...I appreciate your explanation of things. Let me...let me explore this bill a little bit further with you in terms of this cap, if you don't mind.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: (Microphone malfunction) I'm not an expert. I'm not an expert...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: ...on it. I just...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Are you...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I'm not an expert. I just...

SENATOR BEUTLER: You're far and away more of an expert than I am, but I'm just...I'm just trying to grope to understand some of the basics. But it...I think I'm right in characterizing this program as a program that gives advantageous interest rates. I mean, it's a subsidy of sorts.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: And I...

SENATOR BEUTLER: Would that be accurate?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes. And, by the way, it's to businesses, housing programs, hospitals, first-time farmers and ranchers, and community development endeavors. It has a broad range, NIFA does.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. And if this is basically a subsidy program, God knows some of the farmers need help in that regard, but wouldn't it be...wasn't the original policy that distinguished larger farms from bigger farms, didn't that make