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could be raised by the half cent for the Northeast area.

SENATOR BOURNE: So the total amount that could be raised by this additional levy is only \$500,000?

SENATOR RAIKES: Five hundred and forty-six, almost forty-seven, thousand dollars.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay.

SENATOR RAIKES: And to your other question, certainly one of the priorities, as I understand it, of Northeast Community College, is to develop an offering for potential...for students in the South Sioux City area. My understanding, really, actually, though, was that they were going to proceed with that whether this bill happened or not. Although I do believe that the case can be made that they are relatively underfunded compared to the other community college areas. And it's certainly given that potential for serving those additional students, it makes sense to allow them this levy authority.

SENATOR BOURNE: I'll agree, Senator Raikes, that they are underfunded as it relates to other community colleges. We heard that on the Revenue Committee. And at one time, we were going to explore how to resolve that. But I guess what I'm struggling with is, if this is going to a new campus, no matter how good an argument we can make that it's needed, I'm struggling with the fact that we can't afford...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BOURNE: ...what we have. And a point in fact, I guess, or an example of that is, earlier this year, I had an amendment that school districts are struggling to pay the shortfall in retirement. And you've been very helpful in working through that with me. But you know, when we have school districts that are clamoring to have a levy increase and a budget increase just so they can respond to an underfunding in their retirement plans--and we won't allow that to happen--and so then we're asked to raise the levy authority to build new campuses. And I'm struggling how...if we can't afford what we have, why should