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Legislatures cannot bind future ones, and I'm not suggesting that this is an ironclad situation, that that agreement was such that it bound a future Legislature, the one we're in today, but I do believe that that is what we were agreeing to. These cities have been cut, along with everybody else. I'm sure each of you can think about your city's budget, and it's been devastated. The state has had huge problems during these last couple of years, but so have our communities. And when I read the letter from our mayor saying that the money that would go to his city means 13 police officers, or could fund three or four libraries for an entire year, or the entire swimming pool budget so kids could swim over the summer, that is...that means something to me. The cities participated in our budget problems by not fighting, by going along and say, okay, we don't like it, we have to be cut, too. And I would suggest to you they would have fought a heck of a lot harder if they had thought that this was a permanent elimination of these funds. They didn't think that, I didn't think that, and a majority of the legislators that were in the body at that time didn't think that. I think this is an appropriate thing to do to put this money back. Again, it's here for another four years, as I understand it, then the MIRF fund is eliminated. That's what I voted on a couple of years ago. I voted on allowing the city of Lincoln to get some other funds to satisfy the obligation they had bonded against the MIRF funds. And as a conciliatory measure, if I recall, Senator Beutler's amendment allowed them to maintain their MIRF money, because they bonded against it, as an income stream, and they were cut elsewhere, and it was a gesture of compromise. The majority of legislators accepted it, and I quite honestly think that the money should be replaced, and I intend to advocate for that. I would urge your adoption of Senator Mines' amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Senator Don Pederson, followed by Senator Redfield.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I heard Senator Mines start off with the idea, a deal is a deal. Let me read parts of a letter that was sent to the city council of Omaha and a copy of it going to the city of Lincoln, and it was in response to a letter from Omaha. And it