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funds because they had already bonded against that income stream. We were trying to be conciliatory and help them because they had obligated that stream. And in return for that, in return for the adoption of AM1661, the bill went forward. And let me tell you what Senator Thompson's comments were on the floor: So if you vote for AM1661, you're doing two things. You're saying we'll take care of the Lincoln problems but we're also going to reverse the Appropriations Committee recommendation to sunset MIRF totally. You'll say...you'll be saying, sunset MIRF for two years then put it back...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BOURNE: ...until 2009. If you adopt that, you reverse the Appropriations Committee recommendation of the bill. It goes away. And we voted, like, 28-5 to do this temporary thing, to say that the city of Lincoln is going to be taken care of because they obligated those bonds. The money goes away for two years and then it's reinstated in 2005 until MIRF dies a natural death in 2009. And Senator Mines' amendment honors the obligation that the Legislature in 2003 made, or made in 2003. I think we should honor that today. I don't care what politicians, they thump their chests and say they haven't raised taxes. You'll not find me in that group. I care about the communities. I care about the 13 police officers that this money might hire in Omaha. I care about the swimming pools in my neighborhood that will stay open because of this. I care that this almost means the library budget for the entire city in which I live...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: ...and each and every one of you can make the same argument about your community.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. On with discussion, Senator Wehrbein, followed by Senator Kremer.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Mr. President and members, I read the transcript several times, trying to decipher what was on our minds, my mind, back several years ago. And I admit, it