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LB 90A, 90, 312

getting next to nothing. When this program was a bill, I did all I could to kill the bill. I pushed and pushed, and the sponsors agreed to seek only \$250,000. My belief at that time was, if such a piddling amount was put into the program, the body would feel it's not worth keeping, and it would be done away with. That bill never surfaced again. But the contents wound up in LB 312, I think, or someplace. LB...or, in LB 90, LB 90. They wouldn't have what I'm talking about in LB 312. LB 312 is where the elitists live. We're talking about the slave quarters now. We're talking about the shacks where the tenant farmers live. LB 90, for the rural area: it became clear to me that that program was going to be put into effect. Such being the case, and my being a member who is always talking about the way we ought to legislate as an institution, I could not watch the program being created with only \$250,000 funding it. To let it go forth with that small amount of money is like telling everybody that the Legislature does not take this program seriously. It's a light pat on the head, a little tap on the rump, and you send the "ruralies" running off giggling, happy that they got a sucker that they could lick, not realizing that the sucker they were given was analogous to the way they were being treated. They had been given so much of nothing, that when they were given a little of something, they were delighted. I went along with them on General File. But rural people came to me and said, I wasn't a part of any deal. I said, and I'm not bound by a deal of which I was not a part. But I was not going to be paternalistic and override the will of my rural colleagues. And enough of them expressed support for this amendment that I'm going to offer it again in good conscience for myself. This program is being funded with \$250,000. It allows for a municipality and a county to collaborate, and can only receive a maximum of \$75,000 for a project to carry out the various specified purposes of LB 90. Each of these grantees must match dollar-for-dollar the amount which they receive. If \$1 million is made available, and if all of that money is sought in grants, it will double to \$2 million, because the match is dollar-for-dollar, not in-kind services. The dollar-for-dollar match is there pursuant to an earlier amendment I offered, because I wanted to have some accountability. Anybody who puts up money is going to think a while before doing it. They will not take just any fly-by