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SENATOR SYNOWIECKI: Thank you, Senator. Thank you, Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senators Synowiecki and Cunningham. Senator Chambers, your light is next.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President, members of the Legislature, I want to read something else from this, so that people in this Legislature who might question my motives--it hasn't been done--will listen to what an editorial writer in North Platte wrote: "While many in our part of Nebraska find Chambers too far to the left of the political spectrum for our tastes, we must remember he is one of our greatest friends." And I have been, and I will continue to be; not pandering, not cheesing up. But when I see people who are disadvantaged and not treated fairly by the bully, then there's a part of me that identifies with them. And I have watched what has happened to the rural sector of this state. They are treated similar to the way people in my community are. Omaha, and to some extent the state, will use the statistics about our poverty to draw money here from the federal government. Then, when it comes, it's used in downtown Omaha and for other purposes, never to alleviate the conditions whose existence justifies or is used to justify the coming in of that federal money. The rural areas of Nebraska have a lot of impoverished people. There might be one or two counties in Nebraska which have been described as the most impoverished counties in the country. I don't see how so many people representing those areas and impoverished people can watch so much money going to the upper levels, where ordinary people will never see it, then hesitate to give this small amount of money to a program like this, which will be closer to the people who need it. That \$15 million that was taken out of what was called the rainy day fund was done in a...the blink, in the twinkling of an eye. Bam, and it was over; \$15 million not even needed. The ones being given that money, supposedly, are so flush that they don't even need it. But it's put there, just in case. This is a program that I believe can use the money. Again, compared to what is being spent around here, this is next to nothing. There are enough rural senators, almost single-handedly, to adopt this amendment. There will be some urban senators, so designated, who will support this amendment,