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LB 90A

good program for rural Nebraska, and it is one that I hope will be used by a number of communities throughout the state. I appreciate the amendment that Senator Chambers has brought, adding more money into the program, but I think at this late date it's not going to happen, Senator. I would ask if Senator Chambers is available to yield to a question, please.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Chambers, would you respond?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR FISCHER: Senator Chambers, this was a bill early on that you did not support at all. And I'm just curious on why you're offering this amendment to put more money into it now.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Because when I couldn't kill it and it became clear that the program is going to go, it ought to have enough money to make it work. It's like some people will say, I don't support the underlying bill, but if the Legislature moves the bill, they'll vote for the A bill, even though they're against the bill itself. So since the program is going to go, there should be enough money to make it credible, to give the opportunity for some of these projects to make the application, and so that you won't have maybe three or four communities that will be quick on the uptake, racing and winning the race, and getting all the money. Four projects, and the \$250,000 is gone.

SENATOR FISCHER: Thank you. Would you be willing to support a similar bill to this one, in the future, then? Do you believe it's a worthwhile program?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: You mean this program? Since this program is in being, I will want it to have enough money to do what the program's design is. I certainly will. I lost in trying to kill it. That ended my efforts in that regard. Now I want to do what I can to make it a success, because the Legislature is going to do it. I'm a part of the Legislature.

SENATOR FISCHER: And if this amendment wouldn't pass this year, would you be willing to work in the future to put more money into that program?