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LB 40, 90

that is before us. I believe it is fair. It is certainly not proportionate to the contribution of these urban areas. But I would ask for your acceptance. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Redfield. You've heard the opening on AM1666. Those wishing to speak, Senator Flood and Senator Smith. Senator Flood.

SENATOR FLOOD: Thank you, Mr. President, members. This is not a good idea. This is wrong. And when I heard earlier this session, on LB 90, the discussion about all the rest of rural Nebraska fighting over a hot dog, well, that's exactly what we're doing. The Oscar Mayer wiener is on the floor, and we're scrapping like little rural groundhogs to find out how we're going to get our share of the pie. Uh-uh. This is not going to happen under my watch, if I have anything to say about it, because 50,000 people, that means Omaha, Lincoln, and Bellevue get their per capita share, while we have excellent programs up in my corner of the state, and we have to fight and scrap and be competitive for what we get. This is not a good amendment. Let's look at this in the big picture. Here's my analysis of why Omaha, Lincoln, and Bellevue come to the table today to get money earmarked specially for their communities. They do good work with the Affordable Housing Trust Fund in Omaha. Unfortunately, with the federal government shifting dollars into Homeland Security and away from federal grants that a community in one of these entitlement areas might have relied on the past few years, now they've got their eye on the Affordable Housing Trust Fund. And I don't say this because we're getting a big pile of money from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund in Madison County. In fact, if you look at the records, you'll see the city of Norfolk didn't get a dime last year. But we, too, are concerned about losing some of our federal money. So we're looking at the Affordable Housing Trust Fund and we're saying, we don't want to have to fight with somebody that's got an entitlement to get our fair share. The Affordable Housing Trust Fund helps the working poor. And they need it in Omaha as bad as they need it in Ord. They need it in Lincoln as bad as they need it in Chadron. I say, get rid of this. Let's be fair. Let's be competitive. Dollar for dollar, let's make sure people that want affordable housing to develop across the state put