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LB 40

together a good program, not create a line-item budget source for the city of Omaha, who spreads out some of their money. This is wrong, and I am 100 percent against this. We need to stand up and say, Omaha, you should get your fair share. If you didn't get anything in 2003, well, then take it up with DED. But don't put the rest of the state on the mat to try and get what crumbs are left because the people in Omaha did not get enough. I am against this. I am for Omaha getting money and funding projects. But I do not think we need to single out three communities and say, this is a gift that you are entitled to. Regardless of your projects, regardless of what you've got going on, you can go to bed tonight and you can count on this much money. Now, what we earlier saw in LB 1446...or, in AM1446, was this idea, that has been withdrawn, in credit to Senator Redfield, that they'd get specific percentages. I've looked at what the city of Omaha has received since 1998, and it's been...and this is from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, not federal funds. Since 1998, they've received \$4,504,000; city of Lincoln, \$2.5 million. Total awarded, \$35,154,000. So since 1998, Omaha has received 13 percent; city of Lincoln, 7 percent. Now, maybe that isn't representative of the population. And if that's the case, then we need to look at what we can do to spur more affordable housing growth in the city of Omaha. But I'm also aware that they qualify for federal funds the rest of the state doesn't. And as...in the big picture, we're all in this state together. And I have stood up here and defended projects that Omaha wants to do to be active and aggressive economic development, to look at the big picture. But when it comes to affordable housing, we have a duty and requirement statewide. And I...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR FLOOD: ...appreciate Senator Synowiecki's support of the behavioral housing money...behavioral health money for housing and rental assistance. That's important. I've been a 100 percent supporter on this since I've seen it introduced. And I appreciate the work Senator Redfield and Senator Synowiecki have put together. But when it comes to money, when it comes to making a specific parcel of this entitlement available for cities like Omaha, Lincoln, and Bellevue, I have a