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May 24, 2005 LB 40

fund. We also have some serious questions relative to how they handled the LB 1083 reform monies and the fact that the Legislature had to come in, in a subsequent session, and rectify that situation. So I very much appreciate the discussion and I very much appreciate the remarks by Senator Redfield and Senator Flood. And again, relative to Senator Preister's amendment, I appreciate the resourcefulness of Senator Preister. It's a very important issue, particularly to those that are living in the older homes, and majority of which are my district in Omaha, and would hope that you support AM1693. And as Senator Preister underscored, these are not Affordable Housing Trust Fund monies. These are not monies that are set aside on the behavioral health end of things. These are monies from another separate cash fund that can, if you will, spare the monies that Senator Preister has allocated as a stopgap measure. Thank you, Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Synowiecki. Senator Bourne, you are recognized to speak. Senator Bourne waives. Senator Jensen, you are recognized.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Madam President, members of the Legislature. I'd just echo what Senator Synowiecki said. original intent of LB 1083 was to get these dollars out and get them out very soon to help those people with mental illness. And so I do support LB 40. I think Senator Redfield, Senator Synowiecki have worked very hard on that issue and I'm so pleased to be at this point where it looks like that we can move forward on that. And then I also want to give credit to Senator Preister for recognizing a problem, and so often these are problems that we didn't create, but because of a mismanagement of HUD and some other agencies, we got left out of this, and that just shouldn't happen. But if we don't address this, we have an agency there that just completely shuts down altogether, and that isn't right either. It's always harder to get them back up and running. So it's a temporary measure, it's a small amount of dollars, but it will keep this agency together and keep them working to address particularly those areas east of 42nd Street where, yes, lead abatement is going on right now, and it is very important that we do that. Because children who grow up in those areas and in those homes and in those yards that they're playing, once they induce so much lead into their