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LB 40

before the end of the session.

SENATOR BOURNE: Senator Redfield, I represent an area that's known as north Omaha and there are a lot of poor people up there, and this money is very important to my district and others in north...the north and east part of the city. And I guess my question to you is, is why, why, give me some advice as to why a legislator such as myself would vote for a bill that increases, basically is a tax increase, and yet there is no guarantee that my community will share in this increased tax? Matter of fact, there's a precedent that the DED has basically turned its back on grants from my community. Can you give me some advice as to why would I vote for such a bill?

SENATOR REDFIELD: Well, first of all, your district would not be spared from paying for the tax. What I believe you're saying is that they would not share in the distribution from that tax.

SENATOR BOURNE: Historically, I believe that's an accurate statement.

SENATOR REDFIELD: And so the reason I would give you as a legislator, and the reason I absolutely support the bill, is because in fact we are currently paying almost \$500 a day from some people to receive services...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: One minute.

SENATOR REDFIELD: ...in behavioral health that actually could be delivered on the community level, and it could cost us about \$500 a month, rather than a day. Now, I think that's a good value for the taxpayers of Nebraska. And so I want to move the bill forward. And that's the portion that Senator Synowiecki actually prioritized.

SENATOR BOURNE: I appreciate that. But let's talk specifically about that portion of the doc. stamp tax that goes to affordable housing. And you're increasing that in your bill by...from \$1.75 to \$2.25. Is that accurate?

SENATOR REDFIELD: Yes. It's a 50-cent increase.