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FLOOR DEBATE

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right, and at some point in time, I'd relish the idea of working with you on that and getting that passed in a more fashionable form. But as far as my bill is concerned, you know, I think...it is my priority bill. I think it's imperative we get this passed this year, and if you have any comments on that, I would yield the rest of my time to you, Senator Flood.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Flood.

SENATOR FLOOD: Thank you much, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator Aguilar. I did file an amendment on LB 915 that basically says that we would spend \$462,000 on the replacement of the Byrne funding, so that we could have law enforcement agencies continue to do their good work in making arrests for meth abusers and possessors in our state, and those that sell or manufacture methamphetamine. I intend to pull that amendment, but I introduced that for the sole purpose of maybe calling everybody's attention to the fact that we do have a serious problem facing law enforcement in this state, and that is the discontinuation of the federal Byrne funding, which supplements the efforts and essentially funds the efforts of law enforcement cooperatives that...multiagency cooperatives that work together to make arrests for possession crimes in the state of Nebraska. If we're in the mood to spend some money, instead of the \$200,000 that's in front of you, we should be considering replacing the Byrne funding that our cities, our counties, and our state law enforcement agencies are sorely missing right now. I do intend to withdraw my amendment to this bill, Mr. President, but I do want to thank Senator Aguilar for the time, and it is my hope that before this session is over, we can make significant strides in making sure that the Byrne funding, as much as we can afford, is replaced to local and county law enforcement. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Flood. Senator Burling.

SENATOR BURLING: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I think Senator Flood is right--\$200,000 is not enough, and it's been a real good discussion. He's brought up some points, and it just shows the magnitude of the problem and how we need to address it. And Senator Pederson is right, we're doing a lot of different things