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FLOOR DEBATE

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was set up with...under a federal law with federal funds to be administered by local government, and they just...and there was very little accountability that went with their program, so they decided to drop it. So I'm bringing this to you with a method by which it could be paid. I know many of you have received somewhat urgent requests from your local law enforcement people saying we've got to keep that program going. I'm simply trying to tell you how it happened that it became a problem for the state of Nebraska to make this determination, and I think it's a matter that you will have to determine. I know that there are some people that do not believe this is a quality program. I know the law enforcement officers do believe it's a quality program, and so I think it's something that you should evaluate in your own mind and determine whether or not you believe that this is something that should be funded by the state of Nebraska, as I have indicated. So with that, I'd like to submit that to you for your consideration. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Pederson. (Visitors introduced.) Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend Senator Pederson's amendment with FA624. (Legislative Journal page 1143.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, to open on FA624.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this is a late night for us. We're scheduled to stay here late, so I'm going to try to keep us here late on the budget bill. What my amendment would do is to...in lines 9 through 12, I would strike the new matter and reinstate the stricken matter. In other words, I am totally opposed to the adoption of Senator Don Pederson's amendment, and I am totally opposed to the state picking up a worthless program that the federal government dropped. This state is not obliged to undo federal blunders. When you let these law enforcement people, who waste this money, come in here in such numbers that when I saw them, I thought they were going to a doughnut convention. Then I find out they're coming here. But fortunately, the Appropriations Committee operated in a way that was sane, sensible and