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complete consideration to this issue. It actually was not under the auspices of a bill, but under the Commission on Law Enforcement department, where a good number of sheriffs came in, I believe there was a representative from Congressman Osborne's office there that testified, and it was actually a rather lengthy hearing. And after the hearing, the committee, Appropriations Committee, gave deliberative consideration to the request. And if I recall correctly, it was a unanimous vote to not fund this, or not pick up this funding. I think one of the concerns of the committee was that this is a slippery slope. If we begin to pick up some of the funds, or some of the programs that the federal government will be dropping, you know, we'll be in for a long tow here. And there's a lot of worthwhile federal programs that, quite frankly, will not be around here much longer. And I recall just last week in the Omaha World-Herald there was a federal food program for poor...our seniors that are struggling, and the requirements for that program were, senior citizens that meet certain income qualifications, there's some type of a food program that's going to be dropped by the federal government. So...and I think that would be a worthwhile program for us to look at. I'm not saying that this program hasn't been effective. I'm sure it has. I've seen some of the data. But really, it's a philosophical question as to whether or not we want to get in the business of picking up these federal programs. Thank you, Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Synowiecki. Senator Stuthman, you're next in line.

SENATOR STUTHMAN: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. I truly support the efforts of the law enforcement with these drug task force. I think they've been of real value. I think there is a value in continuing this. But I have a real problem with the federal government starting a program and then saying, no, and then the state has to pick it up, or the state is expected to pick it up. I think there should have been more emphasis on our congressmen, that they, you know, try to keep these Byrne funds. I know it's really hard to, but you know, those were the dollars that were for this program. But when they decide there isn't enough money, they say, well, if the program is good, the state will pick it up. But I continually