TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

March 23, 2006 LB 1060

department in Omaha, and these were right in the top three, so...diversity training and minority recruitment. I would yield some of my time to any of my other colleagues that would like to weigh in. I don't if Senator Bourne would be interested in saying anything? Okay. Senator Mines and I have worked on this. Senator Mines, would you care to have any of my time?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Mines.

SENATOR MINES: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Senator Flood. I just want to congratulate and thank, certainly, you. And this has been a group effort. Senator Chambers has come to the middle on this, and I think all parties are well served. And most importantly, I think the Byrne Program is...with your approval, will be sustained yet for one more year, and the needs of Douglas County, particularly the city of Omaha, I think are well served, as well. So I want to thank everyone for their help, and would urge the support of AM2891. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Mines. Senator Flood, did you wish to have any of the time back on the opening? I guess not. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I have not changed my opinion that the program that this Byrne money goes for is virtually worthless. However, my intent is to get a message to the people in Omaha who are with the police. They think that with impunity they can disregard the black community and do anything they want to. A better message for Omaha, from me, is not that I can stop everybody in the state from getting any money, but that the rest of the state can get what they need and use it as they see fit, but Omaha is going to have to pay attention to what I'm interested in and what I say. If I did not approve of this compromise, there would be no Byrne money for anybody. And to make sure that it wouldn't be a case of me circumvented, I put some amendments on the bill for Final Reading to make sure that nobody could put a Byrne amendment up there on the budget bill. I have to cover all the bases, and that's what I do. So Omaha can know that it's not that they, out of the goodness of their heart, said, well, we're interested