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FLOOR DEBATE

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LR 259

Environmental Trust to buy land--they've had some land given to them--but it is to enhance our environment, make our quality of life better in this state. And when you help the environment, you help the quality of life for everybody. And I think they have worked very well hand in hand with agriculture issues, and I am supporting this amendment to the Vickie McDonald LR 259, or LR 269, if I'm seeing right, LR 259 constitutional amendment. So thank you for your time.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schrock. Senator Bourne, followed by Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Senator Chambers, would you yield to a question?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, would you yield?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, I will.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Senator Chambers. I read your amendment, but I do have a question. And we discussed this on General File when Senator Schrock ran an amendment that was similar to the one that you've drafted here. And as I read this, we have added language, or are proposing to add language via the amendment to Senator McDonald's bill, that would, in a sense, protect the majority of the funds that have been directed for the environment here in Nebraska.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: That's correct.

SENATOR BOURNE: And when we talked about this bill on General File, I had said that I was curious as to why we constantly are supporting the money that goes to the environment, but we don't protect the money that's called for in the second half of the lottery funds, and that is the 44.5 percent of the money that shall be used for education. So when I read your amendment, you're protecting the environmental dollars, but we're not doing the same for education dollars.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: True.