

SENATOR LANDIS: Right, you can either do one of two things. You can either say whoever races down there first regardless of their level of need should get the money or you can say we are going to spend that money in an order which will promote certain purposes of occurring and I would think that of the two ideas, rather than just simply a race to the courthouse, the better idea is to spend that money in such a way as to encourage energy conservation.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Now in Omaha, if I call up MUD and say I want an audit on my house. They charge me \$15 to come out and tell me what to do. Is that still going to be under this program? Of course I don't come under low income but I don't even know if low income people pay that \$15.

SENATOR LANDIS: They don't.

SENATOR HIGGINS: They don't.

SENATOR LANDIS: And for that reason, in other words, you could meet the standards here....

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...without incurring a heavy burden or cost.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Okay, thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Labeledz, did you wish to talk again? Senator Landis, did you wish to close?

SENATOR LANDIS: Just briefly, Mr. Speaker. I do want to respond to some of the arguments. With respect to the availability of services, there are a number of outreach areas available to the Department of Energy which get out to the place where people are doing transactions, commerce is occurring, the senior diners kind of situation, the senior rec center, but in the event one wants to have a place that is open on a regular basis I would suggest that we took out a provision that would have done exactly that. The bill as originally written allowed for utilities to serve as some of them are willing and hopeful of being able to do as an outreach point. If you want to have a known outlet commonly used in which people are doing business, put that language back in. Of course, they have a transaction with their utility who is no reason why in the event the utility wanted to help administer the program, they couldn't too. So that when you are going down and trying to make arrangements with your paying your check or paying your bill and you don't have the money, the utility company could say, listen, let's see your availability here. Perhaps you qualify for this program