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getting some valuation that was sorely needed because of that increase. Another thing that was a positive part of the change, I believe, is that prior we were granting a homestead exemption, a full exemption only, or nothing. And, if you earned 10,400 or less, you got the full exemption. If you earned \$10,401 you got absolutely nothing. That was an important change. We now have a bracket system that allows people to get 100 percent or other percentages of that so that we're able to help people to qualify. The downside of what we did was that the form became difficult for people to fill out, and many people subsequently haven't even applied. So we had a fiscal estimate at that time of being revenue neutral. It hasn't, in effect, worked out to be revenue neutral, to my understanding. Many people have not applied at all, and many of those people simply have not gotten a homestead exemption. That problem has attempted to be addressed by some of the volunteers intervening for equity in Omaha. The Douglas County assessor in Omaha has allowed people to come into the assessor's office to fill out those forms. The forms are still not real easy for people to fill out, consequently we have really cut down on the number of people who have really qualified. I think this legislation is an attempt to help to address some of those people, help to address some of the problems that are out there with people being able to receive the homestead exemption in dollar amounts that are fair now that all retirement, investment, social security, railroad retirement, federal retirement have all been factored into the equation. Senator Landis is absolutely correct, we had a system that at the time was unfair to those people who were receiving other than social security retirement. We have corrected that inequity and now we need to make this further adjustment to help to offset the problems of a lot of the elderly who are having difficulty making decisions. One constituent wrote me and said that she couldn't buy an air conditioner, even though she has asthmatic problems, this year because she no longer qualifies for the homestead exemption and is having to make the choice between putting in that new air conditioner or paying her property tax. She chose to be a good citizen and pay her property tax. I think it's fair and right and just that we make this adjustment, that we allow the elderly to stay in their homes, and providing this relief will allow them to do that,...

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.