

SENATOR SYAS: Well, 259 I understand that when we passed the budget bill it was eight and now we're amending to six, that is if Stahmer's would pass, seven, well, anything other than eight. What's the vehicle that we change 259 with?

SENATOR MARVEL: Senator Carpenter already mentioned it's 581. It's on the board. In other words, there's the vehicle to change it.

SENATOR SYAS: Okay, all right. Now, on federal funds, I don't know if Senator Stahmer's right or wrong, but he kept bringing this up in committee when we caucused, so Barney Gyger and I and some of the rest of us went to the Education Committee fiscal staff. They couldn't find any federal funds, Senator Stahmer keeps insisting on this, there was a time that Mayor Leahy I guess was offered some federal funds if he'd move down by the river on this, but as I--the only thing we can find out is that this program is being closed out and the City of Omaha never asked for the funds at the time through Mayor Leahy's office. That's what we get, that's all I know and the purpose of the whole thing was to move this down by the riverfront development. Now I'd like to ask Senator--I oppose this but I'd like to ask Senator Stahmer, unless you have specific in with the federal government, tell us where these federal funds are. We haven't been able to find them. You keep telling us about them but you don't bring up any tangible evidence of them even existing. Now either tell us that you've got it, that you know it or then keep from bringing this up constantly which we have tried to find out and we can't find them.

SENATOR STAHMER: Senator Syas. If I can answer you, sir. There are two elements here. We do have federal operating funds in the voc tech schools, that's number one. Number two, the Mayor did try to get some funds from Uncle Sam. People came from Denver and they told him possibly if the funds that are now frozen, if they are unfrozen possibly we could give you up to \$6 million for construction but they said we can't do it the way Omaha is split down the middle. Now I'm not saying there is going to be \$6 million coming in if this should pass for instance with my amendment. I'm only telling you what Uncle said when he came in and analyzed the scene. You do have Uncle's money coming in on your ongoing operating programs and I think you're jeopardizing the entire future of the whole state when you, I think we can safely assume that federal government did question this apparatus of dividing the town down the middle. There's no other town in the country that's so divided to my knowledge.

SPEAKER: Senator Nore.

SENATOR NORE: I pass.

SPEAKER: Senator Nore passes. Senator Dickinson. Senator Dickinson is out. Senator Carpenter.

SENATOR CARPENTER: Move the previous question.

SPEAKER: Previous question has been asked for. Do I see 5 hands? All right, all those in favor of stopping debate vote aye, those opposed vote no. 25 votes. Question is, stop debate. Clerk will record.

CLERK: 28 ayes to cease debate.

SPEAKER: Debate is ceased. Senator Stahmer, do you wish to close on your motion?

SENATOR STAHMER: I'll waive closing. I think we've discussed it adequately.

SPEAKER: Question is to adopt the Stahmer amendment. All in