

trying to do here.

PRESIDENT: One minute, one minute, Senator.

SENATOR WESELY: I know that in my own best interest the defeat of this program will be the best for the City of Lincoln. I know Bob Den Hartog, bless his soul, who passed away just recently, a good friend of mine and a good man, told me, why did you pass this thing, this is losing money for Lincoln. I knew that at the time Lincoln had weatherized a lot of our buildings and although this program has weatherized some more, it really wouldn't return back to our city and our schools as much as it would under the equalization formula because really this is going to a lot of the small school districts with buildings all across the state who have to have this assistance to weatherize their buildings. But I still think this program is in the best interest of all Nebraskans. So I'm ready to lose a little bit of money for Lincoln to help the rest of the state. I think that is why so many people, from across the state, support the bill, why we have co-sponsors from across the state helping us with this bill. I ask you to defeat the kill motion and advance the bill. Let's continue this program which is a benefit to all Nebraskans.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Hartnett.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Senator Wesely, could I ask you a question? If the money does not go into the weatherization fund, where does the money go to?

SENATOR WESELY: Senator Hartnett, it used to go into a permanent school fund, from which the interest was spread around to the different school districts. As I understand it now, when we adopted this bill it says that after this program ends it will go into the school foundation and equalization fund and be distributed directly to the schools. So if it doesn't go into the weatherization fund, as of now, the bill says it will go into the school equalization and foundation fund.

SENATOR HARTNETT: Wouldn't that be better to let the people at the local level, the school board members, do their own weatherization rather than let this super fund, Department of Energy do it?