

later but, at this point, I would at least like to get the other part of the amendment and what I substituted is the part of the amendment that says, no more than half the General Funds received by the Research and Development Authority will be used for administrative expenses and put the cap of \$750,000 total on how much can be spent on administrative expenses. Again, I reiterate, they have spent over 900,000 on administrative expenses last year on a \$2 million a year budget. Yes, they used that administration to throw about \$6 million out in investments, but that money is gone. They have next to nothing left in terms of investment funds. They have a few hundred thousand dollars. They have spent it all, folks. They found folks and they made sure they got some money and then other people weren't able to get money and are waiting in line and wondering what happened but, nevertheless, I don't see how you can vote against this amendment. Now you may find a way, and I'm sure you will, but I'm suggesting that when you have a budget for an entity, you don't spend more than half on administering the money and that's what I'm suggesting we do. All right, I'll give up on the attempt to cut the budget which I still think you'll see revisited later, but I would like to suggest, I don't know how you would argue against the idea that we have some limits on how much to spend on administration in this program. I'd ask your support for this amendment.

**PRESIDENT MOUL:** Thank you, Senator Wesely. I'll now recognize Senator Schmit followed by Senator Wehrbein. Senator Schmit.

**SENATOR SCHMIT:** Yes, Madam President, I rise in support of the amendment offered by Senator Wesely and I want to repeat what I have said earlier on this floor and what I will repeat day after day after day as long as I am here. Every time that I review what is going on with one of these programs, it doesn't make any difference which one it is or how small it is or how large it is, I am more convinced again and again and again the State of Nebraska has no business to get into any kind of a lending program. We do nothing well in it, we squander money, all we do is create jobs for state employees and we create discrepancies in the way the money is handled. We know what happened when we got into the business of guaranteeing the industrial loans. The problem with NIFA is still with us and will come back to haunt us for a long, long time. We know that there...when we started out it was well-intended, we're going to make low income loans to homeowners. Now we finance homes up to \$90,000, not exactly low income type homes, so far as I am concerned, three times the