

and we are paying for half of their training, and the public-spirited citizens that are volunteering to do this service are spending their own time and paying half of their own training to do this. Now we can no longer bake sale our way to new ambulances and emergency response equipment in the State of Nebraska. Yes, should this be state funded? The answer is yes. The answer is clearly yes. Providing health care services and delivery of health care services and delivery of people alive to receive health care services should be a priority in this state. It should be a state priority. Again, we are talking about dedicated people taking their own time and their own money, and we are providing a little bit of help through statewide money to achieve a very laudable goal. We have worked with the doctors from Lincoln and the rural areas, and come to the compromise we are at now, and recognize the differences that do exist in rural EMT services and urban EMT services, and have what we think now is just a pretty darn good bill for delivery of health care services. The A bill by joining together my bill and Senator Rogers' bill, the A bill reduced. It has gone down by coordinating these two bills and the training involved. So if the question is, should this be state money, the answer is clearly, in my opinion, yes, and, again, very dedicated people spending their own time, a lot of time, a lot of training, and some of their own money to help save lives. And most of those lives, again, in my district, I don't know about the entire state, but I know in my district, the percentage of people that use the ambulance services are elderly, and I don't think those on a fixed income really would appreciate being charged a service charge to be provided basic health care services that in my opinion are a right to every citizen in the state. I support the amendment, support the bill. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Morrissey. Senator Rogers.

SENATOR ROGERS: Madam President, members, I also rise to support the amendment 100 percent. Senator Robinson, I don't know where he got some of his figures, \$600,000 is way out of line. The way we combined these two and the fiscal note is about one-fourth of his \$600,000. And you talk about providing services, and I imagine it is the same in the other communities like it is in my communities, when they transport somebody out of town to Lincoln, Hastings, or Grand Island, they are billed. And the second thing is, you know, all these volunteers, they don't receive a dime, not one thing, and I see no reason why we can't at least help them take the training that they need so