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back to the full cut.

SENATOR ASHFORD: That's correct.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Wesely.

SENATOR WESELY: Mr. Speaker, members, the only thing I'm concerned about is the comment Senator Ashford made about revisiting this issue next session. It's one thing to take the step forward and make the cut and delay it, it's another to take the step, make the cut, delay it, and then have to revisit and go through all of this again next session. Is it the intent, Senator Ashford, to perhaps repeal this next session, or is this going to be a...is this the compromise that sets the policy?

SENATOR ASHFORD: It's not...it's not my intent, Senator Wesely. I think what I said is arguably it could be brought up and discussed again next session. I didn't suggest it would be my intent to do it. I'm convinced that the program needs to be pared down, but I felt that it...and that's what I thought all along. Unfortunately, the amendment hadn't gotten here by the time we got to the prior amendment. So my intent is to pare the program down, at this point, and that's my intent, except that it will begin on the first of January, 1994 rather than 1993.

SENATOR WESELY: Well, I don't mind supporting that if there is a problem making adjustment for Omaha. It would only be in the opening up of the issue again next session that I would be concerned. And I would hope, hope one of the understandings is for those of us who are concerned, that would support this amendment, that it would be the understanding that policy would be set and we'd move forward. We wouldn't have to go through all this again next session. If that's not the case, I think people ought to lay that on the table right now.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Any other discussion on the Ashford amendment? Seeing none, do you wish to close, Senator Ashford?

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. President. I would just move the amendment. This...the amendment calls for the implementation date of this bill to be January 1, 1994, not July 1, 1993. The cut is reduced by one-half of the first year's cut, or \$750,000. And then the rest of it is a permanent cut of one-third of the MIRF program.