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FLOOR DEBATE

February 1, 2001 LB 225

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Landis.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Landis, is it true that you and I have been hammering away on this bill off the floor?

SENATOR LANDIS: Yes, we've had private communication as well as the very public communication on this issue.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Well, I don't know whether you consider what we've done publicly to be in the nature of communication strictly speaking, but you're right.

SENATOR LANDIS: (Laughing) That's right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Have you proposed amendments that you are going to offer to the bill which would...well, why don't I let you, so I won't misstate what it is we've talked about.

SENATOR LANDIS: All right. That would be fair. I listened to the debate yesterday. I listened to the motions that were made. I am going to offer an amendment. It's been cosigned by Senator Bromm. I'd offer any other cosigners who'd like to. It incorporates the idea of the two-year window, which came up in the Chambers amendment following a Bromm speech on the reduction in the amount of money in the bill from \$600,000 to \$500,000, a sunset at the end of the two years of grant-making authority that DED would have and then, frankly, I would be willing to have some kind of accountability idea that we've, I think, gleaned from Senator Beutler's concerns. Off the top of my head, that would be the Program Evaluation Committee of the Legislature, however, I know that in the past we haven't wanted to dictate the Program Evaluation's workload. But I would be amenable to that, although it is not in the amendment, itself. There are also two changes to the intent section, which I've struck some sections, and I've struck Section 6, a section that Senator Chambers spent a great deal of time dragging us through, word by careful word.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Now, Senator Landis, this is just slightly aside from the technical aspect of it. When I offered that motion for the two-year, we might say, sunset,...