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FLOOR DEBATE

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Commission and tribes, as opposed to 90 separate counties. And, more importantly and most importantly, it makes good sense culturally and spiritually as well. It will ensure that native peoples have the maximum amount of control over the treatment of their ancestors regardless of whether a specific tribal determination can be determined. That is the purpose of the bill and I would be happy to answer any questions that you might have. I would yield the rest of my time back to the Chair.

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** Thank you, Senator Schimek. You're recognized to open on the committee amendments, as Chair of the committee.

**SENATOR SCHIMEK:** Yes, thank you, Mr. President. During the course of the hearing, we had testimony from one tribal member who came in and was concerned about the notification process and the fact that not enough tribes were being contacted regarding remains, and in a quick conversation with the historical society we determined at the hearing that they would have no problem with expanding that list to a greater number of tribes, and that is what this amendment is about. It says: the society shall notify all tribes which can reasonably be determined to have lived in Nebraska in the past. If such remains or goods are still unclaimed by the appropriate relative or Indian tribe then the remains shall be reburied, determined by the commission, et cetera. So this simply expands the original notification and at first it was thought that this would be notification to about 60 tribes. I think that ultimately they decided it would be a notification of about a hundred tribes. And I believe the historical society would plan on doing this once a year. So, with that, Mr. President, I would urge the adoption of the committee amendments.

**SPEAKER KRISTENSEN:** You've heard the opening on the committee amendments. Debate on those amendments? Seeing none, Senator Schimek. She waives closing. Question is the adoption of the committee amendments. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Record, Madam Clerk.

**ASSISTANT CLERK:** 33 ayes, 0 nays on adoption of the committee amendments, Mr. President.