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FLOOR DEBATE

March 6, 2001 LB 55, 71

another day. We'll have that chapter and verse, another situation. I ask for the advancement of LB 55 and we'll be able to continue the discussion of what's the appropriate role for the state, vis-a-vis the consumer, on that day.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. You've heard the closing on advancement of LB 55 to E & R for engrossing. Senator Erdman for a motion.

SENATOR ERDMAN: Thank you, Mr. President. I move the advancement of LB 55 to E & R for engrossing.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion is to advance LB 55 to E & R for engrossing. All in favor say aye. Opposed nay. It is advanced. Mr. Clerk, we're passing over LB 397. Next agenda item.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 71 on Select File. Senator Chambers would move to amend. (AM0065, Legislative Journal page 380.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on your amendment to LB 71.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I had talked to the Speaker about offering this amendment and he has no objection. I've talked to the members of the Government Committee because this was an idea that was before their committee. What it does, simply, is allow the Omaha City Council, like every other political subdivision, to draw its own boundaries when time comes to redistrict after the census. It's one of those bills which is so simple in what it does that there's not a lot of explanation that would make what's being attempted any clearer, so I'll just give a little background on this situation. The law right now says any political subdivision except public power districts, which will elect or nominate by districts will draw its own boundaries. When the Legislature required district elections of the city council in Omaha, the existing or then-members of the Omaha City Council were opposed to the idea. They had made it clear that when that bill went into effect they would defeat the aims of the bill by drawing district boundaries in a way to accomplish