

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

March 30, 2001      LB 516

prioritize it because I believe that a lot of those needs have been met, and we can carry on this fund to further meet the continuing needs, and those existing needs throughout the state. What kind of projects does it fund? Actually, rehabilitation of existing homes; home ownership opportunity programs using existing housing; housing development; and several other things that encourage home ownership and public/private sector partnerships to bring about economic development in communities around the state. It's touched every corner of the state. And many people have been able to access that. And I appreciate the work that many people have gone into to work on this. And that is why I have agreed to promote this bill, and I ask your vote in advancing LB 516.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You've heard the opening on LB 516. Mr. Clerk, is there anything.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Byars would move to amend the bill. Senator, AM1059. (Legislative Journal page 1162.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Byars, you're recognized to open on your amendment to LB 516. This is AM1059, Senator Byars.

SENATOR BYARS: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and colleagues. AM1059 is...was introduced as LB 549, to the Health and Human Services Committee. Was advanced from that committee unanimously, there was no opposition to the bill. And it is simple in it's intent. It does have, I feel, a substantial impact, however, on what we're trying to accomplish. What amendment 1059 does is, transfer administration of the Homeless Shelter Assistant Trust Fund from the Department of Economic Development to the Department of Health and Human Services. The Department of Health and Human Services handles all of the issues relating to funding of resources for the homeless, and it was felt by both the Department of Economic Development and the Department of Health and Human Services, that this is truly where...where this fund should be placed. In addition to transferring the responsibility to the Department of Health and Human Services, it also eliminates a certified audit that is required now for everybody who receives Homeless Shelter funds. The reasoning on the part of both the departments, DED and HHS,