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FLOOR DEBATE

February 7, 2002 LB 283, 1201

SENATOR CUDABACK: Motion carries. Mr. Clerk, next agenda item, General File. LB 429, as the Speaker said, will be passed over, and LB 429A is passed over.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, with respect to LB 283, it is a bill introduced by the Transportation Committee. (Read title.) Bill was read for the first time on January 5th of 2001, referred to the Transportation Committee. (AM0118, Legislative Journal page 712, First Session, 2001.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Jones, are you authorized to carry LB 283?

SENATOR JONES: Yes, I am.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You're recognized to open on LB 283.

SENATOR JONES: Mr. President, members of the body, LB 283, this is a transportation bill and we had the hearing, like he said, a year ago on January 23rd. It was advanced out to General File on a 6 to 1 vote. There were no opponents to the...at the hearing. The bill renames the Department of Roads to the Department of Transportation and I think we'll probably be about the last state in the Union to do this, to change that wording. And they kind of wonder why we want to do this, and there's several reasons. Now they decide on the rail crossings, bus transportation, railroad safety, and the study on the...between the corridor between here and Omaha, and the river navigation, and so that's one of the main...some of the main reasons for doing it. And, anyway, there's no time limit as far as changing all their decals or signs and they can do that on their own, and it's...they claim it will cost only about \$5,000 to do that, but mostly what they're going to do is have the new vehicles and trucks that come out, put them on them and let the others probably just go as they are for now. So there's no time limit on it. I know they'll have to change some stationery and stuff like that, the stationery headings and things like that, but other than that, well, that's...that's the reason for the bill and I'd present the committee amendments then. Thank you.