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FLOOR DEBATE

March 3, 2003 LB 102A, 385

is the advancement of LB 102A for engrossing. You've heard the motion. All those in favor please say aye. All those opposed. The bill is advanced.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next bill, LB 385. No E & R's. Senator Beutler would move to amend, AM0615. (Legislative Journal pages 702-703.)

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: The Chair would recognize Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature, I think I can say on this amendment that Senator Janssen and I are together. Right, Senator? (Laugh) This, you may recall, is the convention center bill that provided a fund for municipalities who are not in the city of Omaha, not benefitting by the convention being built, the convention center being built in Omaha. And the whole statute needed some work, simply because no work had been done on it since it was set up. And the League of Municipalities got together with other people interested and came up with a cap, a graduated cap, with respect to the grants or payments that could be made out of the fund. And you'll see that cap, which varies according to the size of the cities, set forth on page 1 of the amendment. And then the other things that the amendment does is to indicate that in a five-year period a municipality shall not be awarded more than one grant, so that over a thirty-year period, there would be an opportunity for a large number of municipalities to apply. And any one municipality would be limited in terms of the amount of money it could take out of the fund. And then it makes clear that those who can apply for the funds are cities of the second class, and villages, and cities of the first class, and cities of the primary class, and no other political subdivisions. So that's clarified. And finally, it simply indicates that a project shall be located in the municipality that applies for the grant. And with that, I'd yield the rest of my time to Senator Janssen.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor. Thank you, Senator Beutler. I do have my light on, so I will not run