

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

March 6, 2003 LB 165

Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File, Mr. President. I do have committee amendments to the bill.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Chambers, ... is he in the Chamber? Senator Chambers? Senator Chambers, your bill is up. We're on General File, Senator Chambers, your bill. I'm sorry. The bill was passed over, by the Senator's request. Mr. Clerk, next item.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next bill this morning, LB 165. It's a bill by the Natural Resources Committee, signed by its membership. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 10, referred to the Natural Resources Committee for public hearing. The bill was advanced to General File. I do have amendments to the bill, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Schrock, Chairman of the Natural Resources Committee, you're recognized to open on the advancement of LB 165.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, LB 165 permits public power districts that own nuclear power plants to indemnify third-party operators from the operators' negligence when they are hired to operate a nuclear plant for the public power district. It's not any secret that NPPD, the manager of the state's largest public power plant, nuclear plant, at Cooper...Cooper Plant at...is it Auburn? It's down in southeast Nebraska, Brownville. Brownville, I knew it was down there somewhere in Senator Vrtiska's district, has been negotiating with the Nuclear Management Company for operating of their plant. And they would turn over operations of the plant to Nuclear Management Company. Although they do not think the current statutes provide a problem, there is some reluctance from Nuclear Management Company to enter into agreement with NPPD until the statutes are clearer. Make no mistake about it. This bill is to clarify the statutes, that in the case NPPD would turn over the management of that to the Nuclear Management Company, that NPPD would still be responsible for liability at that plant. That doesn't get the Nuclear Management Company off from any mistakes that they would make in the management of that