

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

May 15, 2003

LB 407, 411, 412, 468, 469

to E & R for engrossing.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You've heard the motion to advance LB 411 to E & R for engrossing. All in favor say aye. Opposed nay. It is advanced.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 412. Senator Mossey, no Enrollment and Reviews. Senator Jensen would move to amend with AM1890. (Legislative Journal page 1828.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Jensen to open on AM1890 to LB 412.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you again, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. AM1890 is an amendment that basically adds the provisions of LB 469 and LB 412 (sic--LB 468) to the bill. LB 468 and LB 469 were introduced to address the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act, and use the funding from the Tobacco Settlement Trust Fund and the Medical Intergovernmental Trust Fund. Both bills were referred to the Appropriations Committee, and they were heard jointly by the Appropriations Committee and the Health Committee. LB 468 essentially reappropriates funds from the Health Care Cash Fund, to the same uses and in the same amounts as the Legislature adopted in LB 692A in 2001. Those provisions are now part of the mainline budget in LB 407. LB 469 is essentially a cleanup bill that made various changes to the provisions of the Nebraska Health Care Funding Act. LB 469 is held by the Appropriations Committee. AM1890 makes the following changes. It removes provisions dealing with the distribution of the minority health funds to federally qualified health centers in the Omaha area, with the amendment that the Legislature adopted on LB 407 yesterday. The distribution is required to be equal. The current language in Section 71-1628.07, that provided for a different distribution, is then deleted. Two, it removes a current cap of \$2 million in infrastructure funding for local public health departments. The cap, originally added in 14...or, excuse me, in LB 692, because there was uncertainty about how quickly local public health departments would be established across the state. Since the passage of LB 692, almost all the counties in the state are now part of a local public health department that receives funding from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund. The amendment