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LB 626

bill. I would certainly encourage the favorable vote on the bill. I would just point out one thing at this juncture in adopting this amendment, and that addresses the fiscal note, which Senator Friend raised as a question when we last talked about it. With the adoption of this amendment, the fiscal note which you would have in your bill book is currently just under \$100,000. That will drop to essentially \$20,000 for the biennium. What we're doing is investing roughly \$10,000 into this, which I think has a potential to recoup far more than that \$10,000 back into our budget. I think it's a good investment and today is somewhat historic for me because on this bill I had to introduce an A bill. In my 11 years of being in the Legislature, I have never had to introduce an A bill before. I am somewhat proud of that and in this case, where I'm actually introducing it, I think the recouping of the small investment will be certainly well worth that amount of investment. The fiscal note will ultimately be, as I said, right at \$20,000, and I think that will be money very well spent. And I could certainly answer any questions, but most of that money will be going for inputting information and it essentially would be staff time. With that, I would be happy to entertain any questions that there may be and would encourage your favorable vote on AM1671. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Preister. You've heard the opening on AM1671. Open for discussion. There are no lights on. Senator Preister, did you wish to close?

SENATOR PREISTER: (Laugh) Thank you, Mr. President. Yes, I would like to just make a couple of comments in closing, because I passed out a handout that's on your desk. At the top it says "LB 626 as amended." When we're talking about the budget, when we're talking about having more fiscal responsibility, when we're talking about what we do with the taxpayers' money, I think you can go home feeling proud of what we've done with LB 626 in adding some additional accountability and fiscal responsibility. One of the things that we're doing is putting all of these contracts on the Nebraska Information System so anybody can see what the contracts are. That hasn't been done in the past and I think that's a good thing to do in terms of accountability. We will also list on there where an actual copy