

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

March 10, 2004 LB 1005

Washington, D.C., for about 20 years. And if you have the opportunity to visit Washington for any length of time and get into some of those federal office buildings, one of the things you'll quickly observe is that in virtually every federal office building there are the usual blind...excuse me, there are the usual vending operations and snack bar operations and so forth, and in many, many instances those operations are staffed by persons who are blind or visually impaired. And all of that is the result of a 1936 law, federal law, known as the Randolph-Sheppard Act, that gives a priority to blind persons to operate those kinds of facilities. Well, quite a number of state governments, about 40 state governments, I believe, have also implemented laws and policies consistent with the federal Randolph-Sheppard Act. Nebraska took a partial step in that direction in 1961, when we authorized the Nebraska Commission on Blind and Visually Impaired to establish a vending program for blind persons. However, when we did that in '61, we left out the key ingredient, and that is to give the preference, or the priority, to these companies owned and operated by blind persons, or visually-impaired persons. You might know that the State Office Building, just over here on Centennial Mall, has a snack bar operation downstairs, and that company is owned by a person...or several persons who are blind or visually impaired. Here in the State Capitol, I'm told that the vending machine operation has been staffed for 20 years or more by a person who is visually impaired. So we have some experience with this. But in any event, this bill, now in the form of an amendment, would complete the process of Nebraska joining those many other states and joining the federal government with the Randolph-Sheppard Act, and would give blind persons that same priority that they enjoy in most other states. Now passage of this bill would not in any way disturb the existing contracts that the state has with its current vendors. It would only kick in as those contracts expire, and the existing companies would certainly have the opportunity to bid, as would the blind companies. But all things being equal, if the bids were similar, the blind company would get the priority. So with that, I'll conclude my opening. And thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING