

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

February 24, 2005 LB 71

the two agencies in designing the program and soliciting the award grants, but the primary administrative responsibility is with the Department of Economic Development. The second thing it does, it strikes a provision in the introduced bill that requires a prescribed distribution of 25 percent of available grant funds to projects serving certain purposes, and 25 percent to projects of other purposes that are stated in Section 4 of the bill and the amendment. This provision was found in Section 5 of subsection (2) of the introduced bill and is not retained in the amendment, so that it does not have to prescribe that, so for the purpose of trying to get the most...the projects that they feel are the most important. The third thing it does, it adds a new section that becomes Section 9 of the committee amendment which adds expressed authority to recapture grant funds in the event of misuse of the funds by the recipient or if fraud were to be used to obtain the grant funds. We found that there was one instance where the funds were given out in the original practice and grants that were...we've had for the last three years and it was never used, and this gives a way of being able to recapture those funds. The fourth thing it does, it inserts a new section to conform with the introducer's intent, but omitted in the original bill, to state the legislative intent of \$1 million to be appropriated for the purposes of the act for three consecutive years, with grant funds to become first available on January 1, 2006. This is nonbinding intent language, and an A bill will still be necessary to accomplish the intended appropriation. This, the \$1 million, was inadvertently left off of the committee amendments, so the amendment to follow actually does that. It puts this part back in that would be the intent of \$1 million to be appropriated for this purpose. With that, I will close on the committee amendments.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Kremer. You've heard the opening on the committee amendments to LB 71. Mr. Clerk, motion on the desk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Kremer would move to amend the committee amendments with AM0569. (Legislative Journal page 605.)