

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

May 25, 2005

LB 478

result of some of these so-called contractors not doing what they should have done with the money, in Iraq and in Afghanistan. Not everything is going to get through this Legislature by simply saying it's economic development and it's going to lead to a brand-new business. I can understand Senator Cornett bringing this, because it's her district. But I think enough has been given away this year. If these contractors want these people here, they can get these inflated contracts. Let them tell the government, these guys are needed. And maybe there are some women who get these jobs. I don't know. So we're going to have to get enough in this contract to overcome what they say they're going to have to pay in taxes on their pension. If somebody says they're not coming to this state because they don't want to pay taxes, let them go someplace else. This is not the state's responsibility. If this redounds to the benefit of Offutt Air Force Base, Offutt Air Force Base is a federal institution, not a state institution. If these jobs are needed to be done at Offutt, let the federal government do what needs to be done to make these jobs available. If these contractors lyingly tell us that all these people are not taking these jobs only because they have to pay some taxes on their military pension in Nebraska, the job itself must not be worth very much, it's not paying very much. You're going to get these jobs, paying these thousands and thousands of dollars in salary, but you're going to say, I won't take the job because they're going to tax my pension? Why, what kind of nonsense is that? And you all are buying it. When we look at the letters that these contractors send, you think they don't have lobbyists and lawyers and others telling them how to sucker that Nebraska Legislature, because they don't know anything, they'll accept anything you tell them? So here's somebody who, but for having to pay taxes on their pension, would come to Nebraska. I'd like to ask Senator Cornett a question.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Cornett, would you respond?

SENATOR CORNETT: Yes, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Cornett, on average, if there can be such a thing stated, how much will one of these jobs pay?