

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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March 15, 2006 LB 654, 994, 1060, 1199, 1222

CLERK: Thank you, Mr. President. Your Committee on Judiciary, chaired by Senator Bourne, reports LB 1199 to General File with amendments. Amendments to be printed: Senator Baker to LB 1222; Senator Byars, LB 994; Senator Jensen, LB 994; Senator Hudkins, LB 654. That's all that I have, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal pages 1067-1069.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next amendment I have to the Appropriations Committee amendment, Senator Fischer, AM2713. I do have a note, Mr. President, Senator Fischer would ask unanimous consent to withdraw and substitute AM2761.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Without objection, so ordered.

CLERK: Senator Fischer, AM2761. (Legislative Journal page 1069.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Fischer to open.

SENATOR FISCHER: Thank you, Mr. President and members. AM2761 would strike the \$5 million figure on page 120 of the Appropriations Committee amendment to LB 1060 and insert \$1.5 million. This money goes to the Nebraska Cultural Preservation Endowment Fund. Let me begin by saying that I offer this amendment because I felt that the \$5 million is too much. It's too high; it's too much money. Some of you in here have also indicated to me that you feel that my amendment here with \$1.5 million is still too high. This fund was established in 1998 with a \$5 million appropriation being put in by the Legislature. The interest from the fund is used for matching grants to promote the humanities and the arts across the state. I believe that my amendment that puts in \$1.5 million can be justified, and I can explain that to you. If you factor in a 3 percent inflationary growth to the original \$5 million that was put into this fund by the Legislature, the fund would now be at \$6.5 million. This \$1.5 million brings the fund up to that level. I want you to know that I have served on our local area arts council. I have been personally active in the humanities and the arts in our state. I'm not offering this amendment in