

ratepayers subsidizing the lower rates for those that benefit under this bill, and any further information on it, I'd appreciate.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Wesely. Senator Maurstad, on the committee amendments. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Maurstad would move to amend the committee amendments. (See FA54 on page 834 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR CROSBY: Senator Maurstad, on your amendment to the committee amendments.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: Thank you, Madam President. What I would like to do on the committee amendments, AMO385, is strike the language in line 3 starting with after the semicolon, where it says in line 23, the balance of line 3, all of line 4, and through the semicolon on line 5. In essence what that is doing is separating out a portion of the committee amendment that deals with tying this in with the other, LB 829 and LB 830. As I indicated when we were discussing LB 829, I particularly view these various bills individually and would like to see them be able to stand on their own so that we provide flexibility to the economic development professionals across the state to use them as they best see fit relative to creating jobs within their particular area. Now I don't have any particular examples in mind relative to what this amendment would address relative to the types of projects, but I could see, from my experience, that there very well might be some type of economic development projects out there where if you have a large consumer of electricity this might be a key, might be the final piece of the puzzle that might allow a local entity to provide an expansion or a relocation into their area that would not be associated with the Quality Jobs Act whatsoever. So the reason and the intent for the endorsement...or the amendment is to provide flexibility to the local people that are trying to create jobs in their area. Once again, I want to emphasize that I am...my interest in these three bills are not necessarily just that they will benefit Omaha or benefit part of the northern part of my district, Lancaster County, now that LB 829 was amended to increase the threshold, but be able to be used throughout the state in various rural areas of the state, and this is one particular component of the package where I really think we provide some flexibility that might be useful in some economic