

amendment to LB 371. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Senator Bernard-Stevens.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: I guess I'd ask for...for nothing. (Laughter.)

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Please...please record.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 11 nays on the motion to reconsider.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: The Cudaback amendment is back before the body. The Chair recognizes Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Madam President, members of the body. I'm surprised that I had the first light on. I don't know where I found an M&M, but I got one. (Laughter.) My problem, and last time when this was up, when city of the metropolitan class was selected I supported that because I bought the arguments, and I think those arguments are valid today. But I was somewhat distressed in the site selection process when person or persons unknown to me in the City of Omaha were only able to identify a site that was out of the range of the funds available. In other words, it appeared to me as an outsider, a person that believed that that's the area that the secured juvenile facility should be sited, person or persons unknown to me apparently decided to hold the State of Nebraska hostage because they had a captive area. Who is going to stand up on the floor and tell me that Douglas County or individuals within Douglas County won't do the same thing? I think that that's the area that it should be located in. But I think on behalf of the taxpayers of the State of Nebraska, the persons who are responsible for selecting the site, that they ought to have the flexibility to find a site in the general area, and that we ought not to create a scenario under which individuals can hold the State of Nebraska hostage because we have confined the site selection to a narrow geographic area. Albeit, this is wider than it was before, but what assurance do I have that there is not going to be a repeat of the same situation that's existed over the last few months? If there's someone here on the floor that would share their assurances with me, I most certainly would be interested in hearing that. Until that time comes, I'm going to continue to support the Cudaback amendment in order to have some flexibility in a general area in, quite frankly I would hope for the record, in the metropolitan area and its environs, but that we don't create a hostage situation