

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

May 6, 1999

LR 5

number of votes that would succeed at the election. I do like...I still do like the idea of giving the voters a choice and seeing what they think would be the best method. Beyond that, the last thing I might say, and this is just an additional thought, is...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...if we're going to do this, then I hope that we do it right and we try to get some of the community, meaning the community throughout the state, involved in this. It is much easier to sell if you're selling it on behalf of somebody else, rather than us going out and trying to sell the idea. It is...it does look self-serving, even if it's not, which it isn't, because it doesn't necessarily even apply to any of us personally who may or may not be here. So I just would hope that we would do that. And I like Senator Kristensen's idea of being able to discuss it through the summer with our constituency and getting that feedback and coming back next year and making any amendments that we might need to, to either one of these approaches. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. (Visitors introduced.) Senator Dierks on the committee amendments to LR 5CA.

SENATOR DIERKS: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I will certainly support this type of legislation. And I feel somewhat like Senator Schimek, that it's a little bit difficult to go out and try to promote this yourself, because it is somewhat self-serving. I think that we were successful a number of years ago in getting it changed from \$400 a month to \$1,000 a month with the help of a number of businesspeople, the business community, actually. They took it under their wings, and they're the ones that spread the good word. So they're the ones, I think, that helped solve the issue for us. And I would urge that that sort of an approach would be acceptable again. I think it's not only acceptable by the people that do the voting, because it was, they accepted it, but it's easier, I think, for us too. But I will support, and I am interested in hearing what Senator Kristensen's other amendment is about. Thank you.