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LB 628

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Bromm. Senator Brashear, on the Coordsen amendment.

SENATOR BRASHEAR: Mr. President, members of the body, I simply want to rise in full support of the Coordsen amendment to the amendment, and thank Senator Coordsen and those who worked with him for the contribution they made to finalizing this acceptable work product and urge the adoption of the Coordsen amendment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Brashear. Senator Coordsen, your light is the only light on, you can close or you can speak.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank...excuse me. Thank you, Mr. President. Senator Bromm raised an interesting issue that I'm not going to name names, but all of our copiers have a speedometer on, or an odometer. And some of them get 200,000 miles (sic) a year, and others don't get used nearly that much. But...and I don't know if that's widespread throughout the industry of a copier, that they do copy the amount of...they do log in the number of copies that are made over a period of time. And that's true of the copiers that we have here in the Legislature, too. I only mention that to indicate that the goal of determining a reasonable calculated actual cost is not something that's outside of the realm of ordinary office practice. The assessment of the value of the time used as well as the equipment use and the paper is in fact firm figures that are readily available. And I think they're important because we have heard, I think all of us, incidents of where voluminous copies were made for reasons that escaped anybody's common sense thought process. We've also heard cases, and this is where the bill addresses, where custodians of the public records have not been perhaps as open with public records, that is people who are...businesses who were contracted for, primarily, by counties, sometimes by cities to take care of the records, have not been as open as we would expect public records to be the public. And so I think the bill in fact goes a long ways toward rectifying a lot of those concerns, and it also, with this amendment, will be helpful in determining what the costs will be so that the general taxpayer will not have to bear the cost for specific information to the...to the demand of an individual