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me that he has a lot of meetings that's not even scheduled as regular meetings and he has to do a lot of traveling, and I mean his area is bigger than mine. Seems impossible, but he goes clear out to Scottsbluff and covers that area too, and so he's got a lot of miles to cover and he said there's always something to go to and see about; and he's on subcommittees quite a bit too, so that makes a lot of difference. So I want to stand in strong support of the committee amendments and the bill. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Mr. Speaker, members, I just want to take 30 seconds to say the public sometimes has their own interpretation of what these benefits, you might call them, or these stipends, or whatever you want to say, are. Some people call them perks. These are not perks. I think it should be mandatory, I think it should be mandatory that these individuals go to meetings and study and learn, the same as state senators. Many times you'll hear the subject...I have some friends at home and they'll say, oh, you took another trip, huh, you went here, you went here; oh, it's a perk, it's a whatever. Sometimes these things are not perks. I think it should be mandatory that we go and learn and study. If we don't, we're not doing our job. How do you be informed? How are you informed? You sit home and be opinionated like I am and study your own habits? You got to learn other people's habits. You have to learn. I think it should be mandatory that we go to these things and I'm all for the dollars. They should not come out of their own pocket. So let's support our people who serve. They're a volunteer, you might say. I guess I get kind of riled up on this subject, but they're volunteers. They're working for us and we should compensate them for what they do to learn to make our life better. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Further debate on the committee amendments? Senator Schrock, you're recognized to close on those amendments.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, public power has been a part of Nebraska for a long time. We are unique. We have low-cost rates and we really have to import most of our energy to create a...to generate our power. We have