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LB 1010

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...that is before us, you take away options from the board. You certainly do. You mandate that they make a sale. Without it, that is not the case. He doesn't want the amendment, he doesn't want them to be required to sell it, but he wants to make them sell it, but he doesn't want to make them do it. Senator Baker is even scratching his head on that; he can't figure how he got into this bind. I see his light on, he will probably explain this whole thing to us. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Jones, on the Kristensen amendment to LB 1010.

SENATOR JONES: Mr. President, members of the body, there's been several issues raised here that I kind of want to straighten out. They said something about, well, Ted Turner can just buy it at a higher price whenever he wants to. Well, the only way that he can buy land ahead of time is because he's a lessee; he can pay 25 times the rent and have the first bid, but it's still got to go up to auction. So, if somebody...he's either going to just bid once and there won't be nobody else, but it still has to be at an auction. And a good example of that is Custer County has not sold any land since this bill was passed. The first two years they didn't put any up. Last year they put three up, and they started the bid too high on every one of them, so none of them sold, so they're going to release it back for eight years. That puts us clear up to the year that they're supposed to have it 75 percent sold. Another thing I want to bring out, too, the last two years there's been 30 parcels sold to two people. Now I don't think they're going to find two people to buy 30 parcels every year to keep them up on the rate they're supposed to be selling this. I think a lot of people don't realize that. They picked out two people and got 30 parcels sold, and you wonder why or how they did that. These two people bid 25 times the rent, and that was the starting bid. So they started it and they got it, nobody else wanted to bid against them, so it's got to go up to auction. And they haven't sold any in Custer County yet, and I think it's because that ground sells a little higher. And Senator Kristensen said, well, they're going to...they might sell the higher ground or higher productive ground. Well, they're not in this situation;