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January 30, 2003 LB 295

SENATOR BAKER: Yes, I will.

SENATOR BOURNE: I missed the opening on...or part of your opening. Who brought this amendment to you?

SENATOR BAKER: Actually, the Farm Bureau brought it to me.

SENATOR BOURNE: Okay.

SENATOR BAKER: And I had worked on it with them, of course. It wasn't just their idea.

SENATOR BOURNE: Right. And I notice that the Farm Bureau did not even testify on the underlying bill. Is this a fairly new subject to LB 295?

SENATOR BAKER: No, I don't think so. And I believe the reason that Farm Bureau did not testify on it is, we had the process moving faster than they thought that day, and he simply missed his opportunity. I don't know whether there's anything written...I think there was a letter submitted. I'd have to check.

SENATOR BOURNE: I'm not aware of any. But...

SENATOR BAKER: I don't...maybe there wasn't. I don't know.

SENATOR BOURNE: I realize you can amend any bill at any time, and I'm not suggesting that you can't. I'm just saying that it seems to somewhat change this bill. And I'm trying to get a handle of it...on it. And I'm not saying that I oppose it. But I'm not going to vote for it unless I understand it. Let me go through this...the new sections there, in line 13 through 15. It says, "Comparable sales are recent sales of properties that are similar in important physical, functional, and location characteristics". What...can you define what "important physical, functional, and location characteristics" are? And how does that change the assessment process.

SENATOR BAKER: I would think "important physical" part of it