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will recognize Senator Baker.

SENATOR BAKER: Yes, thank you, Madam President and members. I...to answer some of Senator Beutler's questions, I think there are two short line railroads anticipating applying for loans. One of them is the NKC RailNet based in Grant, who came down and testified for it and, as I said, the cars on these unit trains are now up to 286,000-pound cars and they anticipate using funds for bridge updates. They simply will not handle the weight of the cars, the bridges, and specifically it's between Maywood and Holdrege is where those bridges are located. There were two unit car load out facilities already on that line and they found that they can't handle those heavy trains with the existing track and bridges, in particular. There's the load out at Maywood, and there's a load out at Loomis, which is in Senator Schrock's district. They can't get those unit trains out to the main line there at Holdrege, why, they obviously can't use the load out facilities that are already in place in Maywood. I don't know about the one at Loomis. I think it also is in place. But the other short line is the one that runs from Columbus up through Saint Edward, I believe, that anticipates the exact same upgrades as to some bridges, and same reasons there. The 286,000-pound cars which the railroad require them to ship simply break down the bridges and infrastructure on a short line. So I think it's important and I do believe that once this is passed you'll see some use out of it almost immediately, according to the testimony. So I urge your support and would urge your vote also to advance it to Select File at this time. Thank you.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Senator Baker. Is there any further discussion? Seeing none, Senator Bromm, you are recognized to close on LB 259.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Madam President. And, Senator Beutler, I'll be glad to work with you between now and Select File to try to clarify or understand the implication of the General Fund concerns that you have, and we'll see. We'll get more information on that and see if we need to do anything. But with that in mind, I think you've heard the discussion. Hopefully it's clear what the intent and purpose of the bill is.