

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

March 28, 2003 LB 112, 524

Reading. Mr. Clerk, apparently we go to General File and LB 112.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 112 is a bill introduced by Senator Mossey. (Read title.) Bill was introduced on January 9 of this year, at that time referred to the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee. Bill was advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments. (AM0524, Legislative Journal page 728.)

SENATOR LANDIS: Senator Mossey, you're recognized on your measure, LB 112.

SENATOR MOSSEY: Thank you, Mr. President. What the committee amendment does is basically strike the original bill and replace it with the amendment, so the amendment would then become the bill. The reason for that was there was questions about primary service, and I'll get more into that as I get in detail, but there was a question about primary service and whether they would be affected, and some of the language in it. So what the amendment would do is replace the original bill. What started this is, in 1975, when the statute was written, wireless Internet technology was not even considered, or cell phone service. This is a technical clean-up bill to fix the old language about what telecommunication services the state can purchase. Currently, DAS is questionable whether the state can even purchase wireless phone service. This allows the state to purchase other telecommunications technology as it becomes available over the years, and doesn't tie the state down with language that becomes outdated. Some examples of problems we've had without access to wireless services: the most recent Amber Alert signs in west Omaha that flickered on and off during the first Amber Alert, it was suggested that wireless Internet would be the appropriate solution in fixing that; the State Patrol--wireless Internet is needed for faster service at weigh station, causing backlogs with currently the way it's done; wireless Internet for their satellite offices and wireless for mobile data terminals in their cruisers, that's a step towards help improving some of the dead spots in the county...in the state, I should say, where law enforcement and other agencies cannot transmit from; the Department of Roads--it's needed for