

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 3, 2003 LB 165

this plant for the benefit of the majority of the people in this state. I don't mind having amendments put on any bill, and I think that's why we're here. And everybody has their opportunity to speak and place amendments on bills to, in many instances, improve the bills. This particular amendment does not, at least in this particular section, necessarily improve it. It only makes it more difficult for the board of directors to carry out the duties that they're elected to do, and I don't think that we want to do that. We talk about extraordinary circumstances. I'm not exactly sure what constitute extraordinary circumstances, but I suspect there is an explanation and that can be dealt with. But my concern is that if we...if we go off in this direction, it may lead to more litigation than we have already been involved in, and I would hope that the members of this body would see the clear path, and that is to advance this bill without...reject this amendment of Senator Preister's and move this bill forward for a final vote. With that, Mr. Speaker, thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Jones, followed by Senators Kremer, Schrock, and Preister. Senator Jones.

SENATOR JONES: Mr. President, members of the body, I stand to oppose this amendment too. I think that we need to give this power company the privilege of doing this if they want to, to change management, because we think about the board members out there that we, as people clear across the state, elected to do this job and so I think that we shouldn't (inaudible)...you know, this might tie their hands a little bit more to make the decisions. I understand the vote has been real good on all the votes that they've taken to consider this, but I still think that a two-thirds vote is more than we really need to. I think we need to just have a majority vote and I think that's the reason that I would oppose it. And then also I visited with one of the board members awhile back and he said it's been so flusterating because the management that they have, they just can't get their hands around it and get the things to going like it should be to operate it. So I think this just gives them another opportunity to do it. And I don't like to put anything in the bill that will hold them up or cause them not to go