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FLOOR DEBATE

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indemnify or transfer the operating license of a nuclear power plant to someone else, to a private entity. We're not talking about within the state. We're not talking about public power but someone that's not a public power operator. I think that two-thirds majority is minimum. I think that's very little in terms of what we can do, and I think it's justified. When we're talking about a major policy decision, when the board is making that decision on a simple salary, shouldn't they have to make a two-thirds majority vote on a decision to indemnify and to turn over an operating license or go through the procedure to have that operating license handed over to another entity, that's a for-profit company outside of the state of Nebraska? I think we need to think about that very carefully. Two-thirds majority vote, that's the heart of this. That's what some have said is too heavy a burden, too high a standard, and yet we were told in the committee that the board voted unanimously. If they voted unanimously to ask us to pass this indemnification, then what's only two-thirds? Two-thirds is nothing compared to unanimous. Why is it a burden? Why is it a problem? I submit to you that it shouldn't be any problem at all. If the entire board already voted to do this, to simply ask them to take a two-thirds vote again to reaffirm what, supposedly, they unanimously have already done isn't that much to ask. I would hope that we could pass this amendment. It's no more than that. It does require public notification prior to that vote. I don't think that's out of line for a public power entity that's operated by an elected board of directors that has the responsibility for open meetings and public meeting requirements. Those folks are already doing these things. They can put it on their web site, as I suggest. This is not burdensome. It's not difficult. And to have a two-thirds vote, if nothing else, I think...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR PREISTER: ...voting for this amendment can help you, as you think about having made the decision to allow this, at least you put in a little safeguard. If nothing else, if you're willing to vote for it, at least having a little bit of a safeguard here requiring a two-thirds vote, don't we, as a body, do that for cloture? We do it on much smaller things in our own body. We have self-regulated ourselves to that degree.