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FLOOR DEBATE

April 9, 2003

LB 743

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: I have a quorum present, Madam President.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you. Are there any announcements?

CLERK: I have nothing at this time, Madam President.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: The next agenda item.

CLERK: Madam President, the first bill for consideration this afternoon, LB 743. It's a bill introduced by Senator Smith. (Read title.) Bill was introduced on January 22 of this year, at that time referred to the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee, advanced to General File. I do have committee amendments. (AM0715, Legislative Journal page 817.)

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Senator Smith, you're recognized to open on your bill.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Madam Chair and members. I rise to introduce LB 743, and LB 743 is an effort to let individuals enjoy some peace and quiet in their own home, should they so choose. LB 743 is a fiscally neutral bill that allows an individual, who does not want to be bothered by telemarketers, to pay a nominal fee to subscribe to a do-not-call list. That list would then be compiled and accessible by a cash fund...or accessible to telemarketers for a nominal fee to find out who wants to be called in Nebraska and who does not want to be called in Nebraska. That all sounds plain and simple, and that's what I try to do here, and we will have a good debate on this, I'm sure. The committee amendments, I'll let Senator Baker speak to those. I do have some reservations there. But here is what I seek to bring to the discussion, and that is the need to advance LB 743. I remember my first year in the Legislature, spring of 1999. We had a bill, do-not-call list, and I appreciate Senator Beutler's efforts on this entire issue. And the bill failed to advance, for several reasons I imagine. I know I had some concerns about the penalties on the neighbor lady down the street for...who sells Avon and accidentally