

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

April 9, 2003

LB 367

plant. It's from the leaded gasoline. And, as I understand it, the ground is literally filled with lead and these kids are showing signs of slow learning, birth defects, things of that nature from these high lead levels, and I do support this amendment. I understand the dispute. I know that Senator Preister and Senator Beutler have always been fierce protectors of the Environmental Trust Fund and I think that's reasonable. But I find the argument that, oh, what if the citizens knew that, you know, when we...when they put this in that this was what we were funding out of the Environmental Trust Fund. I find that a little disingenuous, particularly when you read the newspaper and you see what kind of raises the individuals that are behind the trust are giving themselves. The person that runs the Environmental Trust gave herself a 13.1 cent...1 percent raise. The person that runs this trust makes \$75,000 a year. So when people talk about how the citizens of Nebraska might be outraged about this money going to help lead abatement so kids don't have birth defects, it's laughable to me. I think they'd be outraged if they knew the kind of money that these individuals were paying themselves. I think that's the outrage. I support Senator Chambers' amendment. I see that Senator Schrock has another amendment to take it out of the Educational Trust Fund, and I...I'm not going to support that. I urge you not to do so as well. Hopefully, Senator Chambers, I know he tends to acquiesce quite a bit. Hopefully he'll fight the fight and take...it seems an appropriate place, the Environmental Trust Fund. This is an environmental issue. We're talking about children with learning disorders and disabilities and that. It just makes sense to take it from here and I stand in support of Senator Chambers' amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne, and I'm sorry I startled you. Mr. Clerk, item?

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Schrock would move to amend Senator Chambers' amendment. (FA1300, Legislative Journal page 1216.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schrock, to open on your amendment to the Chambers amendment to LB 367.