

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

May 19, 2003

LB 596

are covered by this amendment and this bill.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay.

SENATOR LANDIS: So if something else comes up, we could be surprised. But to the best of our ability to predict, this is it.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. My limited understanding of the federal level, this is in conference committee now, between the House and the Senate. Is it not?

SENATOR LANDIS: Yes. In fact, I think they both passed them. And their differences, for our purposes, are, the Senate bill has a \$75 million effect on the biennium, and the House bill has a \$180 million effect on Nebraska for the biennium.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. And...but the conference committee, under the federal rules, can come up with a completely new animal.

SENATOR LANDIS: That's right.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Discard everything that's been negotiated, and come up with a completely new thing if it wants. Isn't that right?

SENATOR LANDIS: Yes. It's one of the reasons George Norris was a big supporter of the unicameral rather than the bicameral.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Oh, okay.

SENATOR LANDIS: He called it the committee of vipers.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Is that conference committee meeting in the near future, like in the next few days? I mean, will we know this before the end of the session, what they've done? Is there any reason for holding this bill till the last minute? Or is that not going to be possible, for example?

SENATOR LANDIS: I don't know when the conference committee