

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

May 20, 2003

LB 622

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Raikes. On with discussion. Senator Mines.

SENATOR MINES: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I'm going to rise in opposition to this and not so much as my background in municipal government but there's not been a public hearing on this issue. We've not had public debate and I don't think there was even a bill. This is, you know, very much like a lot of other things I've seen this session where there is an argument against doing something because the public hasn't been involved in the process. And I can't dispute Senator Raikes' figures or numbers, but something I didn't hear him talk about was the 32 percent cut in state aid the cities have received already. And I think the discussion we've had before is early on the cities agreed to play nice knowing they were going to take cuts, but this is in fact a significant cut to cities of all sizes, and particularly our small cities are going to take hits on this. And I guess, you know, my final point would be that I really believe that we should have public debate, public input, and we should not support the amendment by Senator Raikes. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Mines. Those wishing to speak to the issue: Senator Kremer, Senator Janssen, Senator Stuthman, Senator Schimek, Senator Vrtiska. Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Members of the body, I'd like to ask Senator Raikes a couple of questions, but I guess first I'd like to thank him for not giving clarifying information that would confuse us.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes, would you yield to a question?

SENATOR RAIKES: Yes, reluctantly.

SENATOR KREMER: Okay. The conglomerate result of this would be, because of the broadening sales tax, would help cities. How about those that do not have a city sales tax then? I mean when we look at the big picture it's okay, but the person...a city