

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

May 21, 2003

LB 608

dare not cross them. I don't know what the deal was this time in its entirety. That's why I've got to listen and see what happens. And maybe somebody can show me that LB 608 is an essential bill. That's all I have to say at this point though, Mr. President. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. On with discussion. Senator Beutler, followed by Senator Bourne and Thompson. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, Senator Smith, just a quick question, if I could. As I read the amendment, it relates to counties with a population of less than 55,000. And the current amendment relates to counties of less than 25,000. Right so far? And your amendment would not allow it anyplace in a county of under 55,000, but only if it were in a city with a population of less than 15,000.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Smith.

SENATOR BEUTLER: In a county that's less than 55,000, why is it more important to let it be done by the city, but not by the county? What is the reason for that?

SENATOR SMITH: Well, the practical impact without this amendment is that communities in a county such as Lincoln County, for example, that's a huge county, all of the smaller communities, miles away from North Platte, would not be able to participate in this program simply because North Platte happens to be in the same county. And so this would not allow a place to go to North...or a company to receive benefits in North Platte, but it would in Wellfleet, for example.

SENATOR BEUTLER: But you have to be inside one of the towns in Lincoln County, right?

SENATOR SMITH: That's correct.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And if you're outside one of the towns in Lincoln County, you could not do this. Is that correct?