

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

May 28, 2003

LB 48, 92

Bromm had said, as he has always agreed to do, that he would listen to what the Governor had to say. Well, that was during the evening and the bill wound up on the agenda the next day. It could have created the impression that Senator Bromm was blindsiding or ambushing the Governor by pretending to show a willingness to talk about the bill but then putting it on the agenda in disregard of what may have been said. Senator Bromm explained this to me and I had no problem with not taking it up on that day. It was an issue that did not have to be raised. And I am pointing that out so nobody will think that I have been blindsided by the Speaker. Everything that has happened to the bill, up to this time, was with my knowledge, understanding, and agreement. And now I'm going to snitch on the Speaker. Yesterday, he sent a motion, unsigned, to adjourn, with the directive that I sign that motion, which I did. And I will tell you why I believe that was done. LB 48 was next on the agenda and it was done this way to be sure that everybody knew I was not being blindsided on the bill. The Legislature behaved in a very, very appropriate manner yesterday, but it was kind of a draining day, and to take this bill up that late in the evening did not seem to me to be the appropriate thing to do. So that brings us to the bill now. What you have pending before you is an amendment that would take all of the contents out of LB 48 as they exist now and replace by this amendment what will have been taken out. Let me give you a little background on this amendment. It will reconstitute the Rural Development Commission. There was a bill passed by the Legislature earlier this session with the emergency clause, LB 92. It would take effect July 1. So, although that bill was passed abolishing the commission, it will not take effect until July 1. What this bill does is to bring back into existence the commission. And it also has a provision to revive the statutes that would have been repealed by LB 92. Those are some technical steps that have to be taken to make sure that when this bill is enacted into law it will be effective and take effect. What it will do is bring the commission back alive but in a different form. Instead of having the Governor appoint 19 members, there will be a total of 13, if I have counted them correctly. Four will be appointed by the Governor, and from the four agencies or departments, from which those members will come, you will find listed in the amendment. That will be four members. The