

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

May 28, 2003

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only helps large operations, but I can't say that. We've experienced it in our area. I think they've been very helpful to our small communities. We have the Rural Development Commission. The university created a position last year on rural economic development, and I know the person is very sincere that's operating that but really didn't know which direction she was supposed to go or what she was supposed to do. NPPD does a lot for rural development. They've come into our communities and helped with many projects and many...to try to give incentives and help people to come into the rural areas. We have the main street program. I just think maybe we're heading down an area that we haven't really studied enough, that there's a lot of duplication. And to designate that 75 percent of the funds from grants would come here, I'm not sure that's the right mix. I guess right now I'm inclined to vote against it, even though I do appreciate Senator Chambers' efforts and I know we need to do all we can to help the rural areas. And I thank Senator Landis even on the discussion the other day to create a tier for the rural areas. But I'm just not ready to vote to the positive, thinking that this is the way we want to go and that we're not duplicating a lot of services. I guess that's all I'd like to say at this time, but appreciate listening to more debate from you. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Schimek has a different amendment, so this one that I have up there that deals with the entities nominating, I want to withdraw that amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: It is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Schimek would move to amend Senator Chambers' amendment. (FA1395, Legislative Journal page 2068.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Schimek, to open on your amendment to the Chambers amendment.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President and members.