

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

May 28, 2003

LB 48

state, up to \$300,000, we simply change that to remove the 75 percent, and simply say, any grant funds under the National Rural Development Partnership received by the state of Nebraska from the U.S. Department of Agriculture shall be allocated to the commission. So we're taking out the 75 percent, we're removing any ambiguity about that, and simply saying it shall be allocated to the commission. And Senator...I'll let Senator Chambers and Senator Stuhr speak for themselves. I think...of course, they cosponsored the amendment, so I hope and I believe they are supportive. I should also say that I know I had concerns, and perhaps others did, about whether this would be another bill that we would send to the Governor and have a veto and have to deal with an override, or maybe we'd even be gone by the time there might be a veto of this bill. The Governor is supportive of this amendment. The Governor will be supportive of the bill. And I believe that we...that I have received word that the bill will be signed if this change is made. So I think what we have is, after some disagreements, some misunderstandings, I think we have a recognition by many people that the important thing here is the rural development process and giving it the best shot that it can be given. The executive branch and the commission need to work together. Certainly, there will be many people who will be monitoring, I think, to make sure that that happens. But I think it's a good faith effort on all of our parts to try to get people working together toward a common goal. And so with that, I would turn what time I have to Senator Chambers on the opening. And if he doesn't use it all, certainly I would hope Senator Stuhr would be given an opportunity also. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers. And there's about six minutes, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, Senator Bromm presented all aspects of this issue as well as, in my opinion, can be done. And from this point on, it's a time when a wise man will maintain his silence. Whatever time is left, Senator Bromm already said Senator Stuhr could have it. So I am through. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Stuhr,