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FLOOR DEBATE

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to work out the agreement. And, obviously, no NRD has to do it. So they're going to look and see what they think their fair share is, and contribute. But you need to have the NRDs included, and the only ones being included are those that are right next to the cities that have to get the permit under federal law. I think everything they're doing in this bill makes perfect sense. It's local control. It's the best kind of local control, and it's necessary local control. Property taxes, storm sewer, utility bill, that should be a local choice. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senators wishing to speak to the Natural Resources Committee amendments are Senators Smith, Mines, Friend, Kremer, Schrock, and Synowiecki. Senator Smith.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. The terminology of local control has certainly gotten my attention, and I want to be sensitive to that. I've tried to make some observations as to the need and the desire of communities around the state for doing the right thing, and I commend them for doing that, including the city of Lincoln and others. But I struggle with some things, and I appreciate what Senator Beutler was talking about. And if I could ask for some clarification from Senator Beutler?

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, will you yield?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, I'll try.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay. Now, when it comes to property tax, would the city of Lincoln be entirely precluded from using property tax for such a project that this bill relates to?

SENATOR BEUTLER: Not at all. They could use...they can use whatever combination of taxes they're authorized to use.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay. And with the federal mandate nature, I mean, they could use that...

SENATOR BEUTLER: They could use...