

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

March 4, 2004

LB 962

you later, if we can get to it, would suggest they pay half the cost, or at least half of the current cost, until we get a better handle on how many costs...what the costs are all together. Probably, if you enacted it in the long run and nothing more in terms of landholder or irrigation well owner payments, it would be at about 30 percent of the cost, which is no more, which is no more percentagewise than the Natural Resources Committee has already agreed to do with regard to wastewater management.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BEUTLER: So that's all that I wanted to talk about at this time. But I think it would make some sense to start a conversation, and I'll do this next time, about what you would prefer to cut. The Appropriations Committee is now meeting. We're looking at the ongoing expenses of existing institutions that we've cut several times already in the last few years. We're looking at new spending versus old spending. New spending includes this bill. It includes the mental health reform. It includes the child welfare reform. It's up \$10 million, \$12 million, in that area. Should we be doing new spending when we can't cover old spending? And you know, I think it would be healthy just to kind of go around the room and see how people feel about that, because the Appropriations Committee, God knows, needs a little guidance at this point in time. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Chambers, there are no lights on. You're recognized to close on FA15...he waives the opportunity to close. The question before the body is adoption of FA1525, which is an amendment to the first division of the divided committee amendments to LB 962. All in favor of the motion vote aye, and opposed nay. The question before the body is FA1525, which is to the Natural Resources Committee amendments, part one of the divided amendment. Have you all voted who care to on FA1525 to FA1502? Have you all voted who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 26 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Chambers' amendment.