

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

March 24, 2004      LB 1107, 1118

SENATOR CUDABACK: The Smith amendment has been adopted.

CLERK: Senator Mossey, I have nothing further on the bill.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Mossey, for a motion.

SENATOR MOSSEY: Mr. President, I move the advancement of LB 1118 to E & R for engrossing.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You've heard the motion to advance LB 1118 to E & R for engrossing. All in favor of the advancement say aye. Opposed to the advancement say nay. It is advanced.

CLERK: Mr. President, the next bill is LB 1107. I have no E & Rs. Senator Raikes has an amendment. (FA1592, Legislative Journal pages 1237-1238.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Raikes, you're recognized to open on your amendment to LB 1107.

SENATOR RAIKES: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. I apologize for this. This is an amendment that I didn't get up there as soon as I would have liked. I think maybe it's on your machine now. But let me explain what's going on here. The bill itself deals with the Nebraska Scholarship Act, which is the major revision of need-based aid that the Legislature did last session. This amendment...or the bill itself does a technical correction in that act. This amendment would add another revision, if you will, which would apply only during the transition period. Let me explain that. The transition period involves moving from the old system of need-based aid to the new system, which is the Nebraska Scholarship Act. And the basic idea there is that the need-based aid that the state provides through General Fund appropriations and lottery money would be distributed to students pretty much on an equal basis. The objective is to maximize access among need...or for need-based students to that aid. We find that in the process of working from where we started to where we want to get, there is a lack of flexibility on the part of some of the institutions in awarding the grants and using the need-based aid funds that they're allocated. This