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FLOOR DEBATE

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They're not going back to the 1983 Midwest Energy Code, I guess, is what I'm saying. So it's been...the communication to me has been that Omaha is already doing it. Lincoln, to a great extent, is already doing it. So why not...you know, why not just make everything fairly streamlined and fairly natural, from that standpoint. I guess the final thing that I would say--and again, I can get into some more specifics if Senator Synowiecki would like to. But if...the fact remains, with the amendment included into the bill,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR FRIEND: ...that if it is not cost-effective for a certain building code, or a certain building code official, builders, and jurisdiction to do this, they can certainly approach the state for a waiver in order to allow them the opportunity to, I guess, bypass specific economic hardships that they would run into. So I guess in conclusion what I would say is--and I don't know that I've convinced Senator Synowiecki or anybody else--but the bottom line is, as far as I'm concerned, the committee amendment did, from a blanket standpoint, handle this specific thing. The reason that the "blighted" language was removed is because it just wasn't necessary. I mean, the exemption can be sought out and achieved. And by the way, the way Omaha approaches their business right now...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR FRIEND: Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Friend. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion of the Synowiecki amendment, AM3372, to LB 888, Senator Mines.

SENATOR MINES: Thank you, Mr. President, colleagues. I stand in support of LB 888, and hope to shed maybe a little light on the amendment offered by Senator Synowiecki. I believe the bill itself makes tremendous sense. And Senator Synowiecki's thoughts, I believe, on protecting those that live in blight and substandard areas, is well-intentioned. However, I might point out that "blight" and "substandard" may be used in a different