

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

March 31, 2004      LB 1090

argument is wiped out of your mind, should be, but 15 years down the line, when this kind of an issue comes up again, what do you suppose the lobby is going to say? Well, it's okay; look at the Attorney General's Opinion of May 25, 2004? No. That's not what the lobby is going to say. The lobby is going to put the same spin on it, and we'll go through the same distracting process and the same disingenuous arguments. And that poor Attorney General's Opinion of 15 years ago will be buried in a book that you and I don't have the staff resources to research and dig out quick enough to operate in this forum. It's a discouraging aspect of this legislative process. But for today, please know, there are no constitutional arguments against this bill. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Price, followed by Senators Schimek, Engel, Mines, Hartnett, and others. Senator Price.

SENATOR PRICE: Mr. President, I yield my time to Senator Beutler.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator who, Senator Price? I'm sorry.

SENATOR PRICE: Senator Beutler.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, you have almost five minutes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator, thank you for the time. Let me just respond to a couple of ideas that were expressed. I had indicated earlier I was going to try to go through the pros and cons of this kind of tax compared to another kind of tax. But what's happening in this, I think, extremely competent discussion today is, all these arguments are coming out of the pros and cons of the different kinds of taxes. So I want to respond directly, with the benefit of Senator Price's time, just to a couple of things. Senator Foley had asked about the participation of Nebraska generators in this process, and to what extent money might go back to them from this settlement agreement. Let me say that from my imperfect understanding of the situation, I think what would happen is basically, the money