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FLOOR DEBATE

April 13, 2004      LB 625

have absolutely no reason to believe that the funds will be lost. The letter that Senator Chambers passed out, in the seventh paragraph, it references an attorney who claims that we would be under penalty of losing HUD funds. That individual was working off the green copy of the bill prior to the committee amendment and prior to the amendment that we adopted at the behest of the NEOC. And the individual who wrote this letter made assertions about his position and about his having conversations with me that were untrue. This gentleman has never spoken to me. And he is angry, and so am I. I believe,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR BROWN: ...as does anyone who has investigated this matter, that HUD will review, but that funds are really not in jeopardy. I believe very much in fair housing, and I believe in testing for discrimination. It is because of these beliefs that I think that LB 625 in its current form is so critical. It allows the individuals who run companies to understand and correct the discriminatory practices of their employees when they opt to enter into conciliation. Without the information about what the activities of those employees were, they would not be able to correct those activities. As to the proposed amendment, it is unnecessary, because the subsections (2) and (3) are referenced there, and it is only about notification, and it doesn't change the materials,...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time, Senator.

SENATOR BROWN: ...and so it's an unnecessary amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brown. Senator Chambers, on the motion to return.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I did not draft this bill. Whoever drafted it culled himself paralleling language in the existing law, and that language is found on page 3, and...or page 4, in lines 3 through 7. And the word "final" appears before "investigative." So when they were