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thought maybe some...a couple Senator Chambers amendments would make at least more realistic. But I know none...Senator Brown can't guarantee we're not going to lose a half a million dollars. It just frustrates me no end that we...not so much we're spending the time on the bill at this late date, that's a problem, but the fact is that I can't make a rational decision in my mind. And I just wanted to say that. I'm not...that's all. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Mines.

SENATOR MINES: Thank you, Mr. President. I stand in support of LB 625. I voted green on Senator Chambers' first amendment, simply because it because it made great sense. I voted red secondly, because enough is enough. The presumption of the argument that Senator Chambers is making is that NEOC is doing a good job, that without NEOC life as we know it wouldn't be the same. Those that are unprotected would remain unprotected. I don't necessarily agree with that. In fact, I don't agree with that. I...we've heard the argument from Senator Chambers over and over about the injustice done to people of color. However, from personal experience--and I'm going to share this little experience that I had with NEOC--but from experience, I've had owners of property suggest that NEOC is in fact strong-arming. And above all else, the thing that bothers me about NEOC is their professionalism, or lack thereof. Here's what happened late last year. In Blair, there's a newspaper, the Enterprise Publishing Company, that owns the Seward County Independent newspaper in Seward. And the NEOC saw an ad in the Seward County Independent, it's a weekly paper, that, in the want ads, for...advertising for a property, said retirement apartment, or something like that. The NEOC approached the Seward newspaper and said, you can't use that word "retirement" because that's one of our...the trigger words, and you can't do that. To make, maybe, this story--because it drug on for months--to make this story a bit shorter, the newspaper owner was intimidated and in fact had to hire an attorney, because the presumption was, the penalty for using...for going against "the words" was a \$40,000 fine, which they believed had been levied in Falls City. So the attorney was hired, and found that, well, no, the NEOC, Mr. Alfonza Whitaker, would...he would settle for \$10,000