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SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Engel. Senator Smith, you're recognized.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. Appreciate the side comments as well as to the validity of this issue, and perhaps it could be worded differently. I think that if certain individuals wanted to support it they would, and they'll find ways not to, but that's for another discussion, I guess. The cost is an issue, I hear, and I'm glad that Senator Engel pointed out that it is a relatively low cost, especially in terms of comparison cost to travel across the state, and this is pretty reasonable. I suppose I could have put in the rules, you know, requiring the Legislature to pay for the travel expenses for one citizen from each legislative district to have the opportunity to come down to testify. I mean, if we want a good, broad representation of Nebraska, we should pay the travel expenses of someone from every legislative district. Now, again, I go back and emphasize the fact that I support the concept of time limits in committee. Senator Brashear perhaps was the king of that, and so be it. I've never criticized that. But I hope that the body will consider what it's like when those type of constraints are placed on testifiers and they spend over \$300 in mileage resources to come down for three minutes, maybe, if they stand in line long enough. They may not even be guaranteed that spot for three minutes. I believe that it's important to get the perspective of the entire state when you think about the diversity of issues affecting our entire state. And I got a kick out of Senator Chambers' reference to saving the Ag Committee and saving the Rural Development Commission. I would politely and kindly suggest that I believe there were other issues behind those battles and those arguments. But again, we share differing perspectives. We need to keep in mind that we have a hearing process. I think it's important. Not every state accommodates every bill with a public hearing, letting virtually anyone, you don't even have to be a Nebraska citizen, to come in and testify. So we have some unlimited concepts relating to our hearing process. The rules requiring a hearing for each bill, there are unlimited concepts here. But what I want, and I think it's very reasonable, is to accommodate the general public from great distances to save their own