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SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. Excuse me, Senator Stuhr. I wanted to share with people that we have been working this morning and, although this is a little different, it is my understanding that in anticipation of the implementation of our new priority bill system, that LB 126 will be designated tomorrow, all members of the committee concurring. And so it will come...we will take it off the agenda now, and I wanted you to have notice of that, and it will come among the first committee priority bills. And I wanted to let you know I think this assists and supports the body in continuing to process those bills that we can and, as I call it, getting our sea legs under us. Thank you very much.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Speaker Brashear. On with discussion of advancement of LB 261, Senator Landis. Is Senator Landis on the...he is. Sorry about that.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature. If you look at your committee statement, you'll see that the Revenue Committee reported this out. I was sensitive last year when this bill came aback about the fear that this was essentially assessors uncomfortable with county boards looking over their shoulders. I thought that that might be the case, and I voted against the bill last year because if it was a fight between local officials, let them have that fight. We don't need to wade in. This year the NACO board comes in, county commissioners and assessors, and says, we don't need this. Now that's not uniformly true. There are areas of the state, there's at least one area of the state, that's pretty darn organized, working hard, and has some good working relationships, and it's essentially in this area of the state. Activists (inaudible) they like meeting, they do it pretty seriously; however, I want to tell you that a lot of county commissioners designate somebody else to do this job. They don't appoint themselves to this board. They'll appoint somebody else to take their place, which I think is a sign that the county commissioners aren't deeply committed to the process. Secondly, this has existed for about ten years, and these boards do have the power to tell a county what to do. It's different than the TERC process, it occurs before the TERC process, and