

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

February 3, 2005 LB 15

applies. It takes out a section that was in the bill that will be dealt with by a bill that will come before the Revenue Committee this coming week, and that has to do with the handling of property tax exemption issues under LB 775. We're going to deal with that separate and alone in a separate bill. So that was the right format. We struck it from this bill. It clarifies that TERC not only has the power to hear and grant petitions, but may also deny. You would have thought that the power to hear and grant a petition would have implied the power to deny. But TERC also wants to be able to say that we can say yes and we can say no. So we're going to put in the power to say no as well as the power to say yes. There is one amendment that, by the way, essentially comes from the committee. And I think it's a subsequent amendment that will be handled separately. But I will tell you about it now. The bill originally allowed TERC commissioners living more than 100 miles from Lincoln to receive one paid round-trip every two weeks, and to start court late, if you will. And we struck that provision. So these are the committee amendments. And I would offer the committee amendments. When we're done, I will bring up that special one about the travel round-trip, and we'll take that one up after this. Mr. President, those are the committee amendments to LB 15.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. You've heard the opening on the committee amendments. Mr. Clerk, motion on the desk.

CLERK: Senator Landis would offer AM0194, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal page 411.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Landis, you're recognized to open on that amendment to the committee amendments.

SENATOR LANDIS: Thank you. This was the work of the committee. And the commissioners had asked for 100...those living further than 100 miles away from Lincoln to receive one paid round-trip every two weeks. And the committee was not of a mind to do that. So we struck that provision from the bill. These are well-paid commissioners. To the extent that they have expenses that are legitimate from other state employees, they would be