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FLOOR DEBATE

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committee amendment, I believe. And I would just say that the committee amendment makes a simple addition to the bill, and it requires that a two-year period of time would pass before this automatic restoration of a vote would...of the right to vote, would occur. And if you recall, the bill itself restores the right to vote for people who have completed their sentences. It doesn't mean when they're on parole or probation or anything like that. They have completed their sentences, they've served their time, and they've been released by the Department of Corrections. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek, for the review. Mr. Clerk, motion on the desk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Smith would move to amend the committee amendments with AM0330. (Legislative Journal page 461.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Smith, you're recognized to open on your amendment, AM0330.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. As I indicated yesterday, that I had a concern about the integrity of the election process, and that I believe that we do not focus enough on voter fraud, especially in light of recent circumstances. But this amendment basically pulls out the voter fraud felon from the rest of the process...or, I shouldn't say the rest of the process, but it acknowledges the fact that a person who's committed voter fraud would not qualify for the automatic restoration of voting rights, as the committee amendment does. And as well, though, it also still allows the Pardons Board, as they are constitutionally charged, with still being able to provide that pardon. But that pardon would stay with the Pardons Board, rather than an automatic restoration. So I would encourage its favorable adoption. And certainly, if you have any questions, I'd be happy to answer them. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. You've heard the opening on AM0330, which is an amendment to the committee amendments to LB 53. Open for discussion. Senator Chambers, followed by Senators Schimek and Smith. Senator Chambers.