TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

February 28, 2005 LB 298

SENATOR JANSSEN: Recognize Senator Cudaback, the Vice Chair of the Exec Board, for the report.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Mr. President and members, I'm pleased this morning to ask your support for reappointment of Marshall Lux as the legislative Public Counsel, better known as the Ombudsman's Office. The Public Counsel is appointed by the Legislature to serve a six-year term after recommendation by the Exec Board. Last week, the Exec Board met and voted unanimously to recommend Mr. Lux to the Legislature for another term. That's a six-year term, by the way. Mr. Lux has held this position since 1980 and has done an outstanding job. I just would ask your support. I think most of you probably know Mr. Lux and he's done a great job for the public and everybody concerned. So I ask your support, and this does take 33 votes and so I would hope that everybody would stick around and do what they feel best. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you. Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Is there any more discussion? Seeing none, Senator Cudaback, would you like to close? He waives closing. I would remind the body that it does take a two-thirds vote on this appointment. All those in favor please vote aye; those opposed, nay. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 34 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the appointment.

SENATOR CUDABACK PRESIDING

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. We now go to General File. Mr. Clerk, LB 298.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 298, a bill by Senator Landis. (Read title.) The bill was introduced on January 10, referred to Natural Resources, advanced to General File. The Legislature did discuss the bill, Mr. President, on Friday. At that time, Senator Landis had pending AM0250 as an amendment to the bill, and Senator Beutler had pending FA57 as an amendment to that amendment. (AM0250, Legislative Journal page 445.)