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March 1, 2005 LB 287

CLERK: 27 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of committee amendments.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The amendments are adopted. Anything further on the bill, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Nothing further, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: We're now discussion of the advancement of LB 287. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, I am reluctant to raise any sort of questions with respect to a bill that is obviously for a good purpose. But I did want to ask Senator Janssen a couple of questions about the bill, because it seems to me that this bill is circumventing our normal processes, and in an sense, circumventing it in a way that's a more expensive procedure. And what I mean by that, Senator Janssen, is this. This bill, if I'm reading it right, requests the General Affairs Committee to do an interim study on a particular issue. Isn't that the sum and substance of the matter?

SENATOR JANSSEN: Yes, Senator Beutler. But with the amendment we just passed, that deletes the requirement General Affairs Committee meet at least twice and that such meeting be held in a certain location according to population.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Well, I guess the point is this, Senator. There comes a time in the middle of the legislative session when the Speaker announces that by a certain date we'll all have our interim study suggestions put forward to each committee of the Legislature, right?

SENATOR JANSSEN: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: And the...and that is our normal process. It's not necessary, in order to have an interim study, to go to the expense of having a bill on the topic. Would that be correct, Senator?