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FLOOR DEBATE

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amendment the way it is because I think it's wrong. Thank you very much.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Kopplin. Senator Jensen, followed by Senator Brown and others.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. And just to kind of follow up where Senator Janssen and I were visiting, yes, I was a member of the Papio NRD for four years before running for the Legislature. I also originated from Washington County and grew up...went to a country school a mile and a half west, two miles north of Kennard, Nebraska. I'm very familiar with not only the Papio NRD and its area, but also Washington County and that entire circumstance. The Papio NRD, of course, has a tremendous challenge, and it is flood control. And as we do develop more property and the runoff becomes quicker and faster, there needs to be more containment of that water. Everything from dams to even individual subdivisions now have holding basins so that the water is slowed down. And as the metropolitan area continues to grow, there needs to be more flood control and greater control within the development. And then to take an area that is the fast...one of the fastest growing in the state and to say that, in this bill, that they should be segregated out, I just don't feel is right at all. And certainly, as Senator Schrock said, look at the tax base that is building, and there has been an agreement with the Papio NRD that they have entered into agreements with developers, of which I was one...I'll never do one of those...but, however, that has allowed them to develop flood control without a great expense to the taxpayers. To me, that's a good use of money and a good way to get flood control without putting it on the backs of the taxpayers. Yes, there's development that goes around there. There is not one single dam of the Papio NRD that does not have public access. Every single one does. It might be in a different place and, yes, somebody might come out there with their boat and say, I want to launch here, and that's a launching facility that was either provided by an SID or some other entity, but I think that there has been a great partnership between the private and the public sector, between the NRD with the surrounding communities and then also, yes, with some developers. And to segregate them out of this, I