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March 30, 2005 LB 361

do think that we're all on the same page, finally, in this whole process. And I would urge the adoption of the amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brown. You've heard the opening on AM0838, which is an amendment to third component of the divided committee amendments, offered by Judiciary Committee to LB 361. Open for discussion, Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. I just wanted to rise in support of Senator Brown's amendment. I appreciate the hard work she's put in on this. Sometimes, dealing with the federal government, it's difficult to get answers in a prompt manner. When we adopted the committee amendment, we had drafted the committee amendment based on letters we had received from HUD. And we agreed in committee to make the amendment so that...make the language in the amendment so that it would qualify, or so that the NEOC would maintain certification and do no more. And I think Senator Brown scales back, to a certain extent, the committee amendment, and yet maintains our compliance. I'm comfortable with the amendment, that it does everything that it should, and I would urge your adoption of Senator Brown's amendment. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Bourne. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, friends all, Senator Brown did a very thorough and competent job of explaining the amendment. Senator Bourne gave appropriate accolades to Senator Brown for the hard work she did. But I want to point out that in order to have applause, there are two hands. You cannot have a hand clap with but one hand. You can pop a finger. There was somebody else working very hard on this matter, and that person is speaking to you now. My main intent was to make sure that the NEOC would be in no way crippled as far as its ability to carry out its job to fight against discrimination in housing. I had told Senator Brown that the amendment she proposed ought to be run by HUD, and if HUD agreed that there was no problem as far as decertification, I would support the amendment. As Abraham Lincoln said on one occasion, the promise, having been made, must be kept. I support her amendment. And I don't think it's