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March 30, 2005 LB 273

agriculture. We've had that bill before. It was a great, great asset to rural Nebraska, but it's a totally different concept than is in this bill. That helps agriculture. The bill I've introduced is more for things in the communities, so it's totally, totally different. You know, in the past...the thing that bothers me is in my district I support, and I heavily support, LB 775, and I know some senators in here don't support that, but I would tell you, as a rural senator, I support it very, very much.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Cunningham, I'm sorry, but your time is up.

SENATOR CUMNINGHAM: Oh. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Sorry about that. Senator Schimek, would you give us a quick review on the committee amendments beings it's been a while since we have debated them?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Well, yes. Thank you, Mr. President and members. I think Senator Cunningham, in a way, gave a little preview or review of the committee amendments, which basically took the amount down from \$1 million to \$200,000. That's the committee amendment, but there is...that has been amended with the enterprise zone amendment that Senator Synowiecki introduced. And the idea behind that was \$1 million, to take it back up to \$1 million, but I think you just heard Senator Cunningham say that he would be offering an amendment to take that down to \$500,000. But the committee amendment basically or originally was to lower the amount of the bill to \$200,000. It has subsequently been amended.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Now we will discuss the committee amendments to LB 273. Senator Wehrbein, followed by Senators Stuhr, Chambers and Cunningham. Senator Wehrbein. Is Senator Wehrbein present? I do not see Senator Wehrbein. We will pass over him for the time being. Senator Stuhr.

SENATOR STUHR: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. I'm going to talk just a little bit about the concept of