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FLOOR DEBATE

April 7, 2005            LB 480

amendments. The first is offered by Senator Thompson, AM0948.  
(Legislative Journal page 1078.)

SENATOR CUDABACK:     Senator Thompson, to open on AM0948 to the  
committee amendments.

SENATOR THOMPSON:     Thank you, Mr. President, members of the  
body. This amendment we've discussed with Senator Jensen and  
the counsel for the committee. It's what I consider a technical  
amendment. It's on page 2 and it says...it's new language which  
says, after "a place of work," "which is usually frequented by  
the general public." This is unnecessary language and just ask  
that the body adopt that. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK:     Thank you, Senator Thompson.            There  
were...there are six lights on. You can either speak or you can  
pass over and we'll keep your light on. Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE:     Thank you, Mr. President, members. I rise in  
opposition to the bill itself. And I heard Senator Thompson  
talk about the public health aspects of it. And I don't  
disagree with her. And to me, she's not going to make a case  
for the bill based on public health, because it's not about  
public health, in my mind; it's about, government should stay  
out of people's lives. And I think I've been consistent in this  
position in the years I've been in this Legislature, when I've  
campaigned, and how I have introduced legislation and voted on  
legislation. I don't believe that government should be involved  
in people's lives to the extent where we tell a private business  
owner how he or she can run their business, beyond certain  
reasonable means of...or methods, or modicums of clean food,  
things like that, that would truly harm somebody immediately.  
And let me tell you why. We...I introduced a bill, and you're  
going to see that bill soon in an amendment form on this  
measure, that said that the Clean Indoor Act that we currently  
have, that in my mind we haven't really enforced, so we really  
don't know if it really works--that's my opinion--is the law of  
the land, and that a city, municipality, county, cannot adopt a  
more stringent measure than that. Now, the amendment that I'm  
going to introduce has some language in there that responds to  
the citizens of Lincoln and their vote to ban smoking in their