

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 11, 2005 LB 161, 474

amendments to LB 161.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You've heard the motion to adopt the E & R amendments to LB 161. All in favor of adopting the amendments say aye. Opposed, nay. They are adopted.

CLERK: Senator Jensen would move to amend with AM1044, Mr. President. (Legislative Journal page 1089.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Jensen, to open on AM1044 to LB 161.

SENATOR JENSEN: Thank you, Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature. LB 1041 is really...or, excuse me, AM1044 is LB 474. It was introduced by myself and cointroduced by Senator Brown and Senator Mines. The bill and the amendment would allow a zoning change to be approved by a majority vote of the city council or county board, if the change would be in accordance with a comprehensive development plan for the area. In some cities and counties, a supermajority is necessary for approval if a number of protests are filed, even if the proposed change is in accordance with that comprehensive plan. LB 474 had a hearing without opposition. There were no committee amendments. And the League of Nebraska Municipalities, Nebraska Association of County Officials, and the city of Lincoln and Omaha, have no opposition to the bill. AM1044 lends integrity to the planning process. And after a comprehensive plan is developed for an area, with hearings and approval by the planning commission and city county...or, by the city or county, then those seeking a zoning change should be able to rely on that plan for development of a zoning...as far as zoning goes. And a simple majority should be required for a vote of approval of the zoning change. The bill is really straightforward. That's all it does. I would just ask for approval of AM1044.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. You've heard the opening on the Jensen amendment, AM1044 to LB 161. Open for discussion. Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Would Senator Jensen yield to a question, please?