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FLOOR DEBATE

April 11, 2005      LB 161

SENATOR CUDABACK:      Thank you, Senator...who did you refer to, Senator Janssen?

SENATOR JANSSEN:      Senator Price. I'll give her the remaining of my time.

SENATOR CUDABACK:      Senator Price, about 2, 30.

SENATOR PRICE:      Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members of the body. I want to remind you that included in this amendment is a procedure to allow citizens to stop the formation of an assessment district. This is nothing that's going to be done without their wishes. And assessment districts can be very small, they can be medium, or they could be large. But the larger they are, the harder they are going to be able to manage. Similarly, in statute there already exists the creation of districts for city sewage, drainage, and water service in cities of the first class. This legislation requires the city council to send out notices to affected property owners when a special assessment district is formed. This is by U.S. mail, to the property owner. Probably not the tenant if it's a rental. But it's to the property owner. And remember that it includes the statement that if more than 50 percent of the property owners in the proposed district protest the district formation by written protest to the city council and a petition form, that the district will not be formed. And so this is nothing that will be done without the will of the majority of the people. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK:      Thank you, Senator Price. Senator Stuthman, followed by Senator Smith and others.

SENATOR STUTHMAN:      Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I did engage in the debate, I think it was last week or the week before, when this bill was presented to us then, and it failed at that time. The thing that I want to get some more information on is, I would like to engage in a little conversation with Senator Beutler, if I could, please?

SENATOR CUDABACK:      Senator Beutler, would you yield?