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FLOOR DEBATE

April 11, 2005      LB 161

the question of financing of trees and parks and all those different things. It comes from the root. It comes from the grass roots. People in Lincoln like their green space, and the question is, will you allow us at the local level to create financing mechanisms whereby a majority of the people might express their interest in a higher quality, a higher level of care through these kinds of districts? And maybe it's an experiment that you should look at in terms of how it goes and what happens, what can happen in other communities. But is is a case of people feeling in a special way about something and wanting alternatives with how to do with it, and I hope you'll let us do it. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Landis. Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: (Microphone malfunction)...call the question.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do see five hands. The question before the body is, shall debate cease on AM1162? All in favor vote aye; opposed, nay. We're voting on ceasing debate. Have you all voted on the question who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The motion was successful. Debate does cease. Senator Price, did you wish to close, or Senator Beutler? Senator Price, you may close on AM1162.

SENATOR PRICE: Again, I thank you all for this good healthy debate that we have had. Let us do remember that this is nothing that's going to be forced on the public out there. These assessment districts will be created either by people who are residents, taxpayers of the city wishing to establish a district, or it can be established by the city council with approval at the second meeting of the city council, or disapproval by the citizens who this impacts. This is a Lincoln bill and, again, I appreciate all of the input. Yes, we are doing differently on tree planting here in Lincoln. One point one million dollars in the budget which is set by the mayor, and