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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 737

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open on FA223 to LB 737.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, not having looked at the language of Senator Wehrbein's amendment, I thought the Ponderosa Ranch was included because when he was talking to Senator Cunningham he had said, maybe you want to look on this page and check this other one, too, so I thought that the Ponderosa Ranch had been on one page and then US...Qwest, or whatever it was, was on the other page. But there were two others, not including the Ponderosa Ranch. Senator Bourne came to me and asked, why would I say that all of these things should apply when a person misses the time for cashing the check and not apply to the Ponderosa Ranch; is it because one is a rural ranch-type setting? I said, well, it's in there. He said, no, it's not. He showed me the actual claims that were the subjects of Senator Wehrbein's amendment. And I sputtered around showing him a difference, then came over here and drafted an amendment to strike the Ponderosa Ranch. That's what is before you now. And I'm going to reoffer Senator Wehrbein's amendment. He was correct. Other senators spoke in favor of what he was doing for the arguments he and others had given. Maybe he felt that if he withdrew his amendment, I would withdraw mine on the Ponderosa Ranch. They are distinct. There can be differences shown in the circumstances. So, rather than offer all three of them at the same time, I'm going to reoffer Senator Wehrbein's amendment, and we should take a vote on that. Large corporations have responsibilities. Some are impressed with what the courts call a public duty even though they call themselves private. They are so widespread and broad in what they do and their impact is such that they're treated as though they are a public corporation, a public entity, and they're held to that standard. Corporations are eternal persons. They are treated just like a natural person. The Fourteenth Amendment did not envision that, but that gave the basis for creating an artificial person, and that's what a corporation is. So it exists forever, unless something happens that terminates its life under the law. These large corporations have house counsel, and they can retain specialized counsel if necessary. More than sloppiness is involved here. Sloppiness is something