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May 9, 2005

LB 312

opening on FA236. Mr. Clerk, are there amendments?

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Chambers would move to amend this component of the committee amendments. Senator, I have FA242, which would strike Section 3 of this component. (Legislative Journal page 1435.)

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator Chambers, would you like to open on your amendment?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes. Madam President, members of the Legislature, I have filed motions to strike amendments...I meant, strike sections from this bill. Having just received a copy of Senator Landis' division, I see that some of the sections are not going to be dealt with consecutively. So my first motion, although I filed them consecutively--strike Section 1, 2, 3, and on through--the first one that comes up is number 3. I had begun to work on Section 1. The reason I want to do this is to be able to get a clear understanding of what it is we're doing, not by virtue of a generalized discussion such as Senator Landis gave. When you speak in terms of an overview, it is difficult to tie that to these individual sections. where we have the division, the first of which involves Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 12, 16, and 19 through 55, there is no way look at all of those sections and determine whether any and everything in them is acceptable. Maybe what the body would want to do is just accept the committee amendments without much in the way of any specific discussion. I have been here since the first time these giveaways were concocted. Nebraska has always been an easy mark, an easy target. With all of the various giveaway programs, the corporate welfare programs, the granting to moneymaking corporations that which would never be granted to individuals, no matter how much their distress, all of that has not appreciably improved the quality of life of the people in this state. There are not 2 million people who live in this state. I think the figure, roughly, is 1,500,000, and I'd stand to be corrected on that. As you increase the amount of money given to these corporations...and I don't care what form it takes -- a tax credit, a refund on sales and use taxes, a credit against income tax, a refundable credit to be set off against this or that or the other. It comes down to the same