May 17, 2005   LB 312

SENATOR CUDABACK: Mr. Clerk, next amendment, when you get time.

CLERK: Senator Beutler would move to amend, AM1625.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, to open on AM1625.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, I'd withdraw that amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: It is withdrawn. Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Senator   Redfield   would   move   to   amend,   AM1615,
Mr. President. (Legislative Journal page 1549.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Redfield, to open on AM1615 to
LB 312.

SENATOR   REDFIELD: Thank   you,   Mr. President, members of the
body.   I have always been a strong supporter of the LB 775
program,   as   we   have   established   it here in Nebraska.   I've
shared here on the floor exactly what happened when we had an
economic   downturn.   The   fact   that companies had invested in
their plants, that they had upgraded their equipment, meant that
when they had a choice between closing a plant here or closing a
plant in another state, it was the Nebraska plant that stayed
open.   And it also meant, because of the wage requirements...or
not,   excuse   me,   not   the   wage   requirements   but   the   job
requirements,   that   when   it came time to make a decision as to
whether to lay off employees in Nebraska or in another state,
that the Nebraska employees remained at the job, receiving a
salary and supporting their families and the state.   I think
that's   an   important element.   One of the portions that was in
LB 775 was an investment-only tier.   That   was   a   piece   that
originally we in the Revenue Committee had not put into LB 312,
and it was later adopted into the committee amendment by the
entire   Revenue   Committee.   One of the concerns that we
discussed, and one that I think is very, very important   for   us
to consider as a whole body is the impact that you may have when
a company invests $30 million, which is the investment-only
tier, and has no job requirement, which I understand, but that
in fact there is no requirement to even maintain the jobs that
they currently have. The fear that I would have is that, in