

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
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FLOOR DEBATE

May 17, 2005

LB 224, 312

CLERK: Senator Smith would move to amend, AM1610. (Legislative Journal pages 1551-1553.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Smith, you're recognized to open on your amendment.

SENATOR SMITH: Yes, thank you, Mr. President and members. AM1610 relates to the lower tiers of the economic development package here in LB 312 where it has the county designations and the population. This would offer the municipality designation as a way of delineating who qualifies and who doesn't. We've had some policy already on the books relating to this without the municipal designation and only the county, and actually it created some concerns about who qualifies, who doesn't necessarily qualify, and so this would offer up the municipal designation so that some...it creates a more level playing field. We have counties of differing sizes geographically and, when you think about it, county boundaries are rather arbitrarily drawn. And oftentimes, without this amendment, we will find smaller communities disqualified from consideration because they happen to be in the same county as a larger community. And I believe that it's the intent of LB 312, and of those lower tiers for the rural areas; is intended to cover, let's say, the Maxwells of Nebraska that happen to be in Lincoln County, in with North Platte, but are disqualified simply because of the size of North Platte. So again, this offers up the municipal designation instead of the county designation. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Smith. You've heard the opening on the Smith amendment, AM1610, to LB 312. For discussion, Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, I'd ask for a ruling. This is the element of LB 224, which was killed by the Revenue Committee, and I believe a 30-vote amendment. I'd ask the Clerk to do that. But let me complete my thoughts and then the Clerk can or the Speaker can issue that warning.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You may.