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LB 312

SENATOR LANDIS: (Laugh) My idea of hell on earth would be to be in Congress.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Aye.

SENATOR LANDIS: Always late, always raising money, and being part of a party that told you what to do. So, no, I've never remotely entertained the possibility of running for Congress.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Aye, me lad, well stated. Now this question. If you were running for Congress, would you support this amendment?

SENATOR LANDIS: (Laugh) Since I dispute the basis of the hypothetical, I don't think I have to answer this, and the answer is no.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Further speakers on AM1610, offered by Senator Smith? Senator Smith, there are no lights on. You're recognized to close on AM1610.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I want to remind you that this issue, I was...with the apparent inaccurate perception that there was a little more room for negotiability here, that's my fault, I would ask that the amendment be withdrawn. But I do want to state that I think that we need to be mindful of the fact that we have bedroom communities of thriving urban areas who will qualify for this, and we have legitimately rural communities across Nebraska, further away than Milford, Nebraska, that do not qualify. So if we're going to have a very legitimate effort of rural development, we need to spend a little more time. And I'm not saying it's the members working on this. I think some issues behind the glass, perhaps, needed to give a little more forethought to the designation of rural areas, and I don't believe that county boundaries are the best way to formulate policy as to who qualifies and who doesn't. County boundaries are arbitrarily drawn, have been for 150 years, or maybe a few less than that. But the fact is we need to make sure those dollars end up where