

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

May 18, 2005

LB 312, 500

SENATOR BROWN: Question.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do see five hands. The question before the body is, shall debate cease on the motion to reconsider? All in favor vote aye; opposed, nay. We're voting on ceasing debate. Have you all voted who care to? We're voting on ceasing debate. Have you all voted? Have you all voted who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 18 ayes, 1 nay to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Debate does not cease. Those wishing to speak: Senator Beutler, followed by Senator Chambers, Friend, Schrock, Landis, Schimek, Mines, Kopplin. Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, just wanted to pick up the conversation a little on retail establishments and how we treat them with respect to business incentives. Senator Landis spent some time and passed out to you the assistance that's being given to them at the local level with regard to TIF financing. And I would just simply note with regard to that that the decision is being left at the local level. The debate takes place at the local level as to whether a particular retail establishment should be assisted or not, considering all of the balancing factors. And in that case, I think we should also note that eminent domain is a tool that can be used with...in conjunction with the TIF, and to enforce the TIF financing, whereas in this particular bill, as soon as we get to the Redfield amendment, eminent domain will be removed from this bill, so that this power will be less than what local people have at the local level with regard to TIF financing. But I wanted to move for a minute to what we do...what we've been doing with LB 775, and now with LB 312, which you've already all approved of. And remember, with regard to LB 312, there is no local board deciding anything. If they qualify, they can do the project. Can they do projects that compete with retail establishments or companies? Well, look at some of this language: conducting research, development, or testing for scientific, agricultural, animal husbandry, food product, or