

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

June 1, 2005

LB 548

things. What if you set a rate with regard to certain kinds of commercial facilities, and it turns out somebody wants to come in and you can't apply that rate? Questions like that. I think I have not much time remaining. So, Senator Cudaback, I'll return my time to you at the moment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You have about 2 minutes and 30 seconds. Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Brown, followed by Senator Schrock.

SENATOR BROWN: Mr. President, my issue...and I'm listening to this discussion closely about the broader bill and the implications. But my discussion is about the pending amendment, and whether it is correctly worded. Because Senator Chambers, when he talks about it, keeps talking about "nondiscriminatory." But what the amendment, at least on the screen, says is "nondiscriminating." So what we are saying with this amendment, FA310, is that the financial calculation formula or other method and allocation shall be nondiscriminating. And I'm not sure that a financial calculation can discriminate. So I think that we probably need some work on the amendment that's pending, even if you agree with the underlying rationale. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Brown. Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I can tell you that counsel for the Natural Resources Committee worked with the public power districts, the bond rating companies. We tried to dot the i's and cross the t's. Senator Chambers and Senator Beutler and Senator Mines, I think you're making a fairly simple bill rather complicated here. We're trying to save the public some money by giving them favorable bond ratings on projects that would not be done if it were not mandated by federal or state or some regulatory agency of the federal or state. And we're trying to save the public some money. Senator Beutler, I think it's fair to say that your amendment jeopardizes that, although I'm not 100 percent sure why, but I'm told that. And I'm going to stick with the amendment that I've brought. I'm going to ask the body not to accept your amendment. I think it jeopardizes the bill, jeopardizes what we're trying to do. And if saving the money