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January 31, 2006 LB 1003

simplify our administration? And we took their suggestion. Distressed areas will be on the basis of this data: Unemployment rate that exceeds the state average, per capita income below the state average, or a population loss between the two most recent federal censuses. If we use those definitions for distressed areas, those three programs can have much simpler administration. Those are the amendments in AM1935. I would ask for the adoption of the amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion of the Revenue Committee amendments, as presented by Chairman Landis. Senator Schimek, followed by Senator Engel. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President and members. I just have a couple of quick comments and questions of Senator Landis, if I might. First of all, it's my understanding, Senator Landis, that this...the underlying bill on this, LB 1003, actually is in compliance with the agreement drawn between the state of Nebraska and the tribes. And I just want everybody to understand that what this agreement changed was the fact that Native Americans did not have to pay motor fuel taxes on the reservation prior to this agreement, and they now will, but the proceeds, some of the proceeds, will go back to the tribes. Is that correct so far?

SENATOR LANDIS: In fact, the vast majority...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator...

SENATOR LANDIS: ... of the money goes back to the tribes. And while that's exactly right, there's one little wrinkle, and that is, also, folks who are not from the reservation but are passing through pay their gas tax,...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Right.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...and their gas tax will also fit into this pot.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Oh, okay.