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FLOOR DEBATE

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SENATOR LANDIS: ...steps, those walls, those conditions that Senator Beutler has agreed to and has helped craft, I am a supporter of the bill, of the amendment, and I will vote to suspend the germaneness rule.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion to suspend the germaneness rule. Senator Beutler, followed by Senator Chambers and others.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, I want to respond to the benefits of this bill, especially as they might pertain to other communities. But before I do that, I want to finish telling you how this is set up, so you understand completely how it's set up under Lincoln's constitution, or Lincoln's charter, and their subsequent ordinances. And I was telling you about the board of trustees, and I mentioned to you that the whole board, all 15 of them, have to approve investments and other...it's subject to the open meetings law. And then most of the trustees...it says with regard to those that are not leadership in the hospitals and those sorts of things, it says the remaining 12 trustees shall, to the extent possible, include individuals from the healthcare community, business and finance community, and other community stakeholders including, but not necessarily limiting to, minorities, underserved population, individuals with disabilities, neighborhood representatives, community volunteers, and representatives from the religious and educational communities. At least five must have a recognized background in public health, medicine, human service, registered nursing, mental health, dentistry, or related fields. So these members that are appointed by the mayor nonetheless must have...must be broadly representative of the community. The city council was careful about that broad representation. And then there's a provision that the city council can remove any member of the board of trustees for malfeasance or nonfeasance in office. It lists the powers that they have, including the power of investments. And finally, I wanted to note for you, with regard to their obligations, that concurrently with an annual budget--and they have to have an annual budget that's open to public review--they shall present an annual report or state of the endowment to the mayor, the city council, and the