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

February 13, 2006 LB 872

SENATOR CHAMBERS: But I also wanted something in the record that makes clear what is going on here, that neither the federal program nor the state program, based on the way they are structured, do very much to reduce the polluting that occurs. It simply allows some to continue polluting a great deal, because there are others who produce less in the way of pollution, who are willing—call them credits—to sell their credits which would allow them to pollute, to somebody who is polluting a lot. And at some point—I won't be here; you won't be here—this state is going to have to think about doing something to create a net improvement in the environment, a net improvement in the cleanliness of the air. And that's about all that I have at this point. Thank you, Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Senator Chambers, unless something unforeseen happens, you'll be here longer than me. This is my last session. I would tell you, the acid rain trading program, by federal standards, has probably been effective, and they say it has reduced the amount of acid rain by 40 percent since 1980, and that's in the face of more...of probably more plants on line which could affect acid rain. So we would expect the same thing from the mercury trading program. In the year 2010, the emission levels that can be emitted are going to come down, and it's going to happen again in 2018. And so we look...I think it's a 70 percent reduction is required by the year 2018. I think that's significant. Thank you for your time, Senator Chambers. That concludes my remarks.

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

SENATOR PREISTER: Thank you, Honorable President, friends all. I have long supported renewable energy, particularly wind energy. We don't have to worry about any mercury emissions coming from wind turbines, and I do appreciate Nebraska Public Power District setting up a coordinated system to produce the Ainsworth Wind Farm. And those turbines that are out there are not emitting any mercury. We don't have to worry about having environmental compliance issues, and if we did more with wind, since we're the sixth windiest nation (sic) in the country, and