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FLOOR DEBATE

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aside as a second-class citizen, and I certainly wouldn't want to put a vote to the people to affirm that in any way that might be in somebody's mind. We're in this together. I see it as a state issue from the beginning, and it needs to remain a state issue. I thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Kruse. Senator Beutler, on the Chambers amendment, FA422.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, I understand how Senator Chambers may feel about a particular bill that applies to the city of Omaha. But my gosh, don't blame Senator Landis. Senator Landis is the Chair of the Revenue Committee. He's supposed to be looking out for the entire state, and he does that, I think, to the extent that he's even criticized by some groups in Lincoln for providing too much. But he's reached out, he's said to the city of Omaha, this didn't work out as we originally planned with regard to this convention center facility. He's afforded the city of Omaha the opportunity to come before the Legislature and argue their case. What's wrong with that? And Lincoln is to be punished for that? That bill came out of committee 7-0, without a dissenting vote. That included Senator Cornett from Sarpy, Senator Redfield from Omaha, Senator Connealy from near Omaha, and also Senator Baker, Janssen, and Raikes. It clearly was a bill that that committee--urban, rural, Lincoln, Omaha--thought deserved consideration before the Legislature. And for the life of me, I do not see or understand why Lincoln should be punished for that. If one perceives that one or two issues...if I perceived that on one or two issues I lost in this Legislature I would then vote against everything else and filibuster everything else, if more than one of us did that, we would be in big, big trouble. I think there has to be some compromise and reconciliation. For one, when that bill comes before this Legislature, Senator Chambers will give it a very rough time indeed, I'm sure. And that's his prerogative and his opportunity, and more often than not, he's successful in what he does. But he will also have the opportunity, don't forget, next year, when Senator Beutler and Landis and others are not here. And when, if it should happen, the people vote for this amendment, when it comes back to the Legislature, Senator