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have needed for some time, and this amendment that we're talking about now, AM1285, is simply to bring up-to-date the year elapsing and to strike certain properties in the initial bill, to make up for the fact that we are now going to enter into a new process, as Senator Thompson has mentioned. We advanced this bill last year, and there have been changes that have been made, and these amendments are reflective--this amendment and the one that follows--are reflective of those changes that are made. So with that, I will defer any further comment about this particular amendment until we can talk about the entire process.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Thank you, Senator Don Pederson. Senator Cudaback, speaking to the amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Mr. Speaker and members, I guess maybe it may not be time to speak this, as all of it hasn't been explained yet, but Senator Thompson and Senator Don Pederson have done a great job, and I appreciate Senator Pederson taking this as his priority bill. And Senator Thompson, they've been working on this bill, what, for three or four years. The time has come. I think you see a need for this, and I won't reiterate what Senator Thompson has said, but the time is here and we have to do this, we have to do the maintenance, we have to do all the things that keep...in the big picture, we have to do things to keep the students coming to Nebraska. And if we don't keep up simply with the other states around us, why, we're falling behind, and with this type of a bill it does put us in line, and being in what you might say a competitive market, in the big picture. So I just say, go along, listen to Senator Thompson and Senator Pederson in this. It's very worthwhile. Thank you.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Further speaking to the committee amendments? Senator Don Pederson, you're recognized to close.

SENATOR D. PEDERSON: The initial committee amendment merely strikes certain of the properties that were in the original proposal, because things have changed, and in a moment we will be discussing the new amendment, which will become the bill. So I would ask you to consider this particular amendment of striking the other properties that are designated and ask you to