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process. The process is just the culmination. It was during these...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR PREISTER: ...past five years that we have worked on it that we have known that the naming time would come. We need to do it before the building is finalized. It's probably close to halfway done now, so this is the appropriate time. I will go along with the committee and their decision to call it the Eastern Nebraska Veterans' Home, and I would ask you to do likewise. I will certainly entertain any questions that anyone has. The amendment itself simply names the new veterans' home the Eastern Nebraska Veterans' Home. Thank you very much, Mr. President and members.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Preister. You've heard the opening on AM2657 to LB 994. (Visitors and doctor of the day introduced.) On with discussion of the Preister amendment. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President and members. I stand in support of the Preister amendment, and I have to tell you a little bit about the committee process that took place. This bill was heard January 26, and it took the committee about a month and a half to two months, actually, to bring this bill to the floor--probably about a month and a half, I should say. We deliberated and we discussed and we agonized over this bill, but finally the committee did advance it on a 6-2 vote, and we felt that this was the best solution all around. We did write a letter to John Liebsack, the Nebraska Veterans Council Chair, immediately upon sending the bill to the floor, and we copied this also to the family. But what we said in that letter is, as you know from attending the hearing on LB 903, the family of Senator Tom Fitzgerald feels very strongly about continuing to honor their father and all the work he has done for veterans. The Government, Military and Veterans Affairs Committee is also concerned about this issue and would like to find a way to continue to honor Senator Fitzgerald at the new veterans' home, even if the home itself is not named in his honor. Various suggestions have been made as to how to recognize Senator