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FLOOR DEBATE

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for this amendment and the name change. I thank Senator Dwite Pedersen for his comments, and I would echo those. Senator Landis and other members, I know, will be saying that this is the normal practice, that the Legislature does not name facilities after a living member. Well, the exception was made, and it was made by the members who stood in this Chamber years ago. That exception was made, and I believe we need to honor that. I am sorry for what the family has had to go through in the discussion, and I do extend my sympathy to them for what they've had to endure. I've also heard from a number of veterans' service organizations in my legislative district. The local American Legion post, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, they have all sent me resolutions. I have also received a number of letters from individual members of those organizations, and they do not want to see that name changed. Those veterans are fearful of what kind of message we would be sending, if we're willing to honor somebody at one point--if we're willing to honor a veteran--and then years later change that name. I plan to oppose this amendment. Thank you very much.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Fischer. Further discussion? Seeing no lights on, Senator Preister, you're recognized to close. I'm sorry. Senator Chambers, your light must have went off. You're recognized.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President, I had not turned it on, in fact, because you'd mentioned that Senator Schimek was up, and I thought she would be recognized, so I'm sorry I delayed. But what I think should be kept in mind is that building does not belong to an individual, it does not belong to a family. There are many, many veterans. There are many who've passed on, many who still are alive. There will be an increasing influx of veterans as these shooting wars continue. So whatever may have happened in the past, times change, circumstances alter, and there must be an accommodation. So I'm in support of what has been done by the committee. As Senator Preister pointed out, this move does not disparage or denigrate anybody. What this whole situation does demonstrate is the wisdom of the general policy of not naming any public building or facility after a living person. Even if that principle is breached on occasion, that does not invalidate the validity or