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LB 489

that committee and remember it well, all the permits we had to get, inspections we had to have, continuing inspections. And to add another layer of bureaucracy to this, I'm hearing from my constituents and we do have a number of churches, small churches who made the investment in elevators, the schools and so on. I can't imagine what the cost is going to be if we have to jump through all the hoops in AM2344. So I just can't support it. What we have is working. It was terribly expensive with what we had to do anyway. And to add some more to this, I just, I can't support it. I've had no complaints from shoddy installation out there. Several churches in my district have put elevators in in the last few years. In fact, they came to me knowing that I had worked on the project in my home town, how do we get this done, who do we use. We've just been more than satisfied. Granted, they're out-of-state companies. But it looks to me like maybe this is a protectionist-type bill that would shut down those contractors that we typically use in western Nebraska that are out of state. They don't do shoddy work. We're very satisfied with them and we have to go through all the inspection process that exists now, which was very burdensome and costly. So I have to rise...I understand what you're trying to do here, but I'm saying we don't need this, especially in rural Nebraska. If you want to apply this to municipal cities, meaning Omaha, that's fine. You can do that to yourselves. But please don't try and use this tactic to try and make us use these inspectors that apparently are centered in the metropolitan area of Omaha or maybe some in Lincoln but probably don't know where my hometown even is. And to have to use that, it just, it probably would put a lot of people out of consideration, would cause them not to consider adding these handicap-accessible features to churches and...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute, Senator.

SENATOR BAKER: ...small business buildings and so on. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Baker. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion of the Beutler amendment to the committee...or, not the committee amendments, but the Synowiecki amendment to LB 489, Senator Wehrbein.