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FLOOR DEBATE

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LB 1249

mine, and that is as a city council member, fighting hard for local control.

SENATOR LANDIS: Right.

SENATOR SMITH: Does your efforts...or do your efforts here impinge on local control, in terms of who serves in what areas?

SENATOR LANDIS: To the best of my knowledge, Adrian, the answer: it has no impact. There was a world shift, a catastrophic change of events three years ago. I think Senator Friend says it was in his freshman year, LB 790. We did change the cities' abilities on that day. We are not changing the cities' authorities in LB 1249 or in Senator Friend's amendment, I think it would be fair to say. What rights they have they continue to have, what powers they have they continue to have, and what mechanisms for complaint they have they continue to have. There is no diminution of municipal authority in either the Friend amendment or in LB 1249.

SENATOR SMITH: Okay. Thank you, Senator Landis, and Mr. President, I just beg that we can get something done this session to bring some closure to this issue, and so, I hope that we can do something, and I would yield the balance of my time to Senator Friend.

SENATOR BAKER: Senator Friend, you have 3 minutes, 15 seconds.

SENATOR FRIEND: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the Legislature. Senator Smith, thank you very much. Senator Smith, I'm perplexed, and I've heard this a lot, the idea that this is making us weary. We need to solve this problem. We need to get this behind us, et cetera, et cetera. Well, first of all, I've dealt with this for four years, and my point, from the very beginning is that I have not clearly identified a specific problem. Senator Redfield brought up a couple of things earlier, that guess what? Ten years ago they were a problem. We've solved some of these things. We've solved some of the concerns that Senator Redfield had. Senator Smith believes that there are problems. I still haven't heard, in the four years that I've been on that committee, the two years that