

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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FLOOR DEBATE

April 5, 2006

LB 1226

SENATOR CUDABACK: Heard the motion to adopt the E & R amendments to LB 1226. All in favor say aye. Opposed, nay. They are adopted.

CLERK: The first amendment to the bill, Senator Louden, I had FA646, but I have a note you'd like to withdraw that, Senator.

SENATOR LOUDEN: (Microphone malfunction) (Inaudible.)

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Louden...I'm sorry, Senator, you're right. I didn't notice that notation. Senator Louden would like to withdraw and substitute AM2971.

SENATOR CUDABACK: No objection, so ordered.

CLERK: Senator Louden, AM2971. (Legislative Journal page 1436.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Louden.

SENATOR LOUDEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the body. On LB...I meant AM2971 is all about property taxes. I introduced this amendment because I'm opposed to any increase in property taxes. There's been a considerable amount of lip service spent on cutting property taxes over the years, but by supporting this amendment we can see who is serious about a reduction in property taxes. In LB 1226, a tax is promoted in only certain NRDs, so in fact the bill will only tax certain areas of Nebraska. It allows NRDs that are designated by the Department of Natural Resources as fully appropriated to increase their mill levy by 3 cents per \$100 of valuation. This is a property tax on residential, commercial, machinery, any property that isn't in an NRD--real estate, farm machinery, whatever is personal property or any property in the NRD. It has been pointed out many times in this Chamber that property taxes in Nebraska are higher than surrounding states. I don't have any problem with LB 1226 and I intend to support it, but I do intend to bring AM2971 to a vote. I believe we haven't achieved a decline of property tax in this Legislature and I, therefore, cannot support any kind of an increase in property