

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 5, 2006

LB 500

Omaha. And I opposed that. If there develops a hole in sales tax revenue in Omaha, that money will for sure not find its way to any roads but to fill the gap in the sales tax that will result from these projects. And it would be clear that the roads are not going to be repaired in north Omaha and in south Omaha. So if it's not too late to reconsider that amendment, I would reconsider it. I don't trust Omaha, I want that clear. I do not trust Omaha. I don't trust Warren Buffett. I don't trust Walter Scott. I don't trust anybody who has anything to do with that project in terms of its doing what we're being told that it will do. Should the people of Omaha have to vote before any of this mess can take place as they did on the convention center? There are many people in Omaha who do not see the need for two ball fields when the one is not being supported. Millions of dollars have been spent to renovate Rosenblatt Stadium. The Royals played there. If they don't play there, what will the stadium be used for when the College World Series are not there? What is going on here? And you might ask what's going on with me. I want to see how far Mephistopheles can get me to proceed with him. But I have my eye on them and I pledge that I will tear the rest of this session up and I will not back away from it if I am betrayed. I will not let that happen to me and my community, and I just want everybody to know that. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Your light...did you wish to withdraw your light? Thank you. Seeing no further lights on, Senator Landis, you're recognized to close on AM0773.

SENATOR LANDIS: No eminent domain for private developers. Retail is out. Part of the money winds up going to north Omaha. Lodging tax, by the way, is out. There's a chance for start-up costs from a hotel in the area for five years. The length of the bonds or 25 years, whichever is shorter. An engine of essentially new economic activity shared at the project location with the bond holders, if you will, with Omaha or Lincoln or wherever. And that new income stream will assist in a partnership in north Omaha. That's the AM0773. I ask for its adoption.