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April 11, 2006      LB 784, 1113

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR MINES: ...I will give you a complete time-line chronology of what we have done. What's very important to understand here is, in addition to LB 784, you have 11 other bills in LB 1113. It's critical that LB 1113 advances today, and the only way that does is if Senator Schrock stands down. So I will continue to talk for another 25 minutes, and the Speaker...I will talk to the Speaker, as well. But I do have bracket motions, reconsideration motions. We're going to be here for 25 minutes. Enjoy yourself. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Mines. Further discussion? Senator Bourne.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. We had a bill on Senator Mines' proposal, that was ultimately put into LB 1113. The bill had a number of proponents. I believe there was one individual that came and testified in opposition. His name was Steve Oltmans. He's with the Papio Natural Resource District. Again, the hearing...it was a good hearing. We had people involved come and testify how our tax dollars, generated by the NRD, went to build a dam--I want to say it was \$3 million, \$4 million, something along those lines--and then after the dam was built this large lake was created, and I'll be honest with you, I've not been out there to this lake. I know it is in Bennington. And that was what some of the folks who were testifying were talking about. But there were bigger issues. They were talking about the process, in general. And basically what we had was an NRD that spent \$3 or \$4 million to build a dam, and then turned the whole area around the dam on this lake, they turned it over to a private developer. And as I understand it, these lots on this lake are selling for around \$175,000 per lot. And again, it was a good hearing. The committee unanimously forwarded out the bill. We all kind of were, after the hearing, were all kind of shaking our heads that we are using tax dollars to create a lake that private homeowners, excuse me, private developers are selling for several hundred thousand dollars per lot, and the public doesn't have the right to use the lake. We all were in agreement on the Judiciary Committee that that is inappropriate. After the