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FLOOR DEBATE

April 11, 2006      LB 1256

Brashear waives closing. The question before the body is, shall AM3222 be adopted? All in favor vote aye; opposed, nay. We're voting on the adoption of the Brashear amendment, AM3222. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK:      29 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Brashear's amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The Brashear amendment has been adopted.

CLERK:      Senator Beutler would move to amend, AM3242. (Legislative Journal page 1595.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Beutler, to open on AM3242.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Cudaback, members of the Legislature, I believe this amendment is agreeable to the Speaker. It deals with that portion of the bill that allows the department to enter into an agreement with an endowment provider, and it sets forth the terms. And one of the terms is to place no less than \$20 million in a private endowment as part of the Nebraska early childhood education endowment within a certain time period, and then some subsequent subparagraphs. What the amendment does is to simply replace the word "Place" with the words "Irrevocably commit," subject to the state's commitment, the \$20 million, and points out and further clarifies that that money is to be used solely as part of the Nebraska...interest from that money is to be used solely as part of the Nebraska early childhood education endowment. So the intent of the amendment is to make it clear that the commitment on the private side is to be the same as the commitment on the public side, permanent and irrevocable, and that that money will then be a very protected kind of trust, both with respect to the public and private money. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Brashear.

SPEAKER BRASHEAR: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. I wanted to thank Senator Beutler for his work, for his cooperation. I wanted to indicate my support for the amendment, and urge its adoption. Thank you.