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FLOOR DEBATE

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so I'd appreciate your consideration of this amendment. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Debate on the amendment? Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Thank you, Mr. President, members of the body. Senator Smith, Senator Brown and I were just joking that probably the way you really would have liked to have drafted this amendment is to have 25 percent of the meetings outstate and all the rest of them in Gering, right? (Laugh) This is a friendly amendment. I think the bill was originally drafted with the 50 percent provision trying to keep some flexibility, because not knowing down the line what other entities there might be out there. But I have to say that I don't believe for the group that brought us this bill that they would have a problem with it because I know they don't envision more than one meeting a year out...out of state, at that. I mean, I wouldn't be surprised if they'd only hold out-of-state meetings once every couple of years. So I don't believe they have a problem with it and, Senator, I do not have a problem with it either.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Further debate on the amendment? Senator Smith, you're recognized to close. He does so. Question before the body is the adoption of the Smith amendment. All those in favor vote aye; all those opposed vote nay. Record.

CLERK: 35 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Smith's amendment.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Amendment is adopted.

CLERK: I have nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Further debate on advancement? Seeing none, Senator Schimek, you're recognized to close?

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President. I would just say that this bill has been a work in progress for several years. I think it's been carefully drafted by all parties concerned, including the media, who always have concerns about whether we're going to keep within the open meetings provisions