

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

April 30, 2001 LB 543

the projects are good projects. Nobody has questioned that. And I would hope that you would continue to support these projects. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. Senator Wehrbein, on the Wickersham amendment to LB 543.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Mr. President, members of the body, I want to give Senator Wickersham a "p" for persistence. (Laugh) And since I have to...want to be sure on the record that I'm going to oppose Senator Wickersham's amendment, that's really all I wanted to make clear. As I said in previous debate, I believe the state does have an obligation in some of these areas, and the money that we put in that relative to the size of the project, relative to the effects that are felt by the University of Nebraska system, State Fair Park, to some degree the military, I believe the amount of dollars we're putting in this is not out of line. And so I, therefore, I oppose his amendment. But I simply wanted to give you credit, Senator Wickersham. You never, ever, ever give up. So that's all I have to say.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Wickersham, there are no further lights on. Did you wish to close on your amendment, AM1668?

SENATOR WICKERSHAM: Mr. President, I think I'll save us all the trouble and I will withdraw the amendment. But I do think that this is not a good time for the Legislature. And if we are to fund these kinds of municipal projects, we will not ultimately be able to make very good decisions about them. And, in fact, I'm not comfortable that we have made a good decision about this project, but there will be more and we will not be able to make good decisions about them either. And we will constantly be caught up in a cycle where people promise this will not cost you anything, and they will be right, because they're going to come to us for the money. And, of course, as we know, 25 votes gets you the money around here, but you really ought to look at something other than 25 votes and whether or not you think you're bringing home the bacon. There are other considerations. Mr. President, I withdraw the amendment.