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FLOOR DEBATE

May 28, 2003

LB 48, 608A

SENATOR MOSSEY: Mr. President, I move the advancement of LB 608A to E & R for engrossing.

SENATOR CUDABACK: You've heard the motion to advance LB 608A to E & R for engrossing. All in favor of that motion say aye. Opposed nay. It is readvanced. Mr. Clerk, next item.

CLERK: Mr. President, excuse me. Senator Bromm would move to return LB 48 to Select File for specific amendment. (AM2114, Legislative Journal page 2084.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Bromm, to open on your motion to return LB 48.

SPEAKER BROMM: Thank you, Mr. President. And Senator Chambers and Senator Stuhr are cosponsors of this amendment, so I'll...I want to grant them what time I don't use. I'll make a pretty brief opening here. But when we got done with LB 48 right before lunch, there were some concerns. At least I had some, and I know some other senators had expressed some concerns about some of the language in terms of the appointment of the members of the commission, whether or not we might have some language problems that should be addressed. Whether or not there were constitutional concerns or not I don't know that we need to get into. But this amendment proposes to change that slightly. Where it talks about, in the bill, "Other members shall be selected by members appointed by the Governor and the Speaker of the Legislature," we are changing that to read, "Other members shall be appointed by the Governor to represent federal agencies, local governments, tribal governments," and so on. So the Speaker is out of that selection process, and other members are out of that selection process. It simply cleans that up. And it takes out the language about entities nominating individuals. Entities like economic development organizations or the private sector, it's difficult to know who would be the persons that would be empowered to do the nominating if they didn't agree on that. So it cleans up that section. Then it makes a pretty significant change, really. When you get to the section that talked about 75 percent of any grant funds under the National Rural Development Partnership received by the