

May 20, 1975

SENATOR SYAS: Well, I endorse his amendments and I won't need mine if you take his and briefly I just want to say one thing. The present law you're living under was introduced by me and when the press brought this bill to me originally, I just want to say one little thing about the agenda. They were so anxious that the agenda had to be correct and that was the point of the bill. He had a Papillion case and I took it upon myself to have the press realize this and I took it upon myself to call the World Herald and some newspapers and the TV and radios to tell them how the Papillion School Board had violated the law...they didn't give a darn. I think in any open need meeting law, the press should be, do more to enforce the law then to give lip service to something and then when something goes wrong, they holler but they don't do anything else. I think you can write all the laws in the world but if the people are so called interested in it, which has always been the press, if they don't do anything about it, the bill is a failure. I think that's the only reason that on the agenda part this bill has been a failure because the press didn't really care. After they got it into the bill, but before we had it in the bill they cried tears, boy, boy, it was awful. I just want to impress upon the press, they have a responsibility on this too. Don't have the Legislature do it all.

PRESIDENT: Do you want to close, Senator Anderson? Is there anything to reply to?

SENATOR ANDERSON: I don't think there's anything to reply to, so I'll just renew the motion to adopt the amendment.

PRESIDENT: All right. The question is the adoption of Senator Anderson's amendments to LB325. Record your vote. Record.

CLERK: 30 ayes, no nays, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The amendments are adopted.

CLERK: Mr. President, there is an amendment proposed by Senator Syas.

SENATOR SYAS: His amendment took care of mine.

CLERK: Now, Mr. President, there is an amendment offered by Senator Koch. On page 8 section 3 line 17 strike "plaintiff" and insert "party". Signed Senator Koch.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Koch.

SENATOR KOCH: Mr. President, members of the body, this goes back to the amendment that I offered at the introduction of the bill. I had some concerns about the fact that only one party could be awarded attorney fees. I think it's only proper that either party could be awarded attorney fees if there is a case in court. For those of you who may not be keeping up with what the Federal courts doing, the United States Supreme Court has ruled, a couple of days ago, that