

to introduce as guests of Senator Higgins under the north balcony, Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Soderberg from Fremont. Will you please stand and be welcomed to our Legislature. Thank you. I understand there is an amendment. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Madam President, Senator Abboud would move to amend the bill. (See Abboud amendment on page 330 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR MOREHEAD: The Chair recognizes Senator Abboud for the amendment.

SENATOR ABBODD: Madam President and colleagues, what my amendment does is...and I am offering the original committee amendments. It is not my intent to badger Senator Chizek's bill. I think his intent is very good, and I would like to see LB 666 passed into law, but I think that the portion dealing with the mandatory requirement that a law enforcement officer convicted of a felony should remain in the statute, that an individual that is convicted of a felony cannot be a law enforcement officer. I feel this is important, as I stated prior to this time in discussing the committee amendment as it was amended by Senator Baack's motion. When you have a law enforcement agency official who is convicted of a felony, be it whatever, it could involve bribery, it could involve some sort of physical assault, it could involve a multitude of crimes, that because he is acting as the spokesman for society and he is acting under the auspices of our laws, that he should carry with it a certain air of honesty and integrity. And by allowing an individual that is convicted of a felony to once again return as a law enforcement officer undermines the integrity of the entire criminal justice system. If, for example, an individual is convicted in the Omaha Police Department or Lincoln Police Department of bribery, and then later on his appeal is overturned because possibly the wiretap was improperly placed upon him or on someone listening in over the telephone, and that was thrown out because of some technicality, I don't believe that that police officer should receive back pay or that police officer should be entitled to a pension. I feel that if there is a conviction, let the conviction stand. Now if that is overturned, then I don't believe that he is convicted of a felony, because either you are convicted and the Supreme Court upholds that decision, or you are not convicted. I know we got into a little bit of a problem up in the Omaha area with our police officer, police chief, and there was some