

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam President and members of the Legislature, I'm having this amendment...a copy of this amendment handed out. It's to provide \$38,000 for the multicultural education program in the State Department of Education. The material that you have coming to you will explain, based on the breakdown provided by the Department of Education, what this money is for. There is to be a training component put together by the department to assist the individual school districts and the ESUs in training the teachers and other personnel to carry out the requirements of LB 922, as amended, by LB 27 this session of the Legislature. It has been discovered what a lot of people knew in the first place that many teachers and school districts don't have the expertise to put together the type of programs necessary to carry out the provisions of the law. So if you have gotten a copy of the handout, on the face of the first sheet which carries the amendatory language, you will see an article that relates to an incident pointing out the need for multicultural education or whatever terminology a person would want to apply to the type of instruction that will teach people how to respect others and not resort to threats of violence and intimidation, nor the utilization of symbols of violence and intimidation to bring about their will. The incident is the cross burning that occurred at the Southeast Community College Campus in Beatrice. The article or the editorial which is contained as a part of the first sheet comes from the Beatrice Daily Sun. And one comment that I underlined says about that incident, "Such a blatantly ignorant act signals to people of all colors that there are still those in the community who either cannot tolerate people of different colors and cultures or who do not have the slightest understanding of the meaning of a burning cross." Everybody knows, I believe, the meaning of a burning cross and whenever it's used in a racial context such as this it's clear that they knew what the purpose of it was. On the third sheet of the handout is an editorial from the Lincoln Journal talking about the same incident. And in the second column is this language. I will quote it, but prior to mentioning that, quoting it, the editorial speaks of these kinds of occurrences in other cities. Beatrice is the location this time but there had been crossing burnings in Omaha, Lincoln, Hebron and Bellevue. In addition to that, Lincoln was the home, as this editorial points out, of the late Larry Trapp who was the former Grand Dragon of the Ku Klux Klan. I happened to read an article in a recent edition of the Lincoln Journal. I don't remember whether it was Sunday or Saturday, where this Gerhard Lauck, who