

hinge on the door so it swang both ways, so that the lobby would have to report, when I pick them up because their car was in the shop and drove them to Lincoln, and I used my gas? Or when I paid to get out of the parking lot at the Nebraska Club, for example, whether I asked for change or not and just left a tip. Or, if I picked up the tab at the Club or I picked up the tab at the Mountains. Since we are in a relationship here where we talk about exchanging ideas and we talk about the lawmaking process, what is the distinction between somebody who is outside the glass paying for it and somebody inside the glass paying for it? Maybe I am using them just as much as they are using me. Maybe I am using them to further my cause with another member of the Legislature. Maybe indirectly I am getting a better benefit of the bargain, because I sure as heck am not going to pay nearly as much for lunch as they might spend, because they can write it off, I can't. What is the distinction, and I know you don't have that in this bill, but maybe we ought to be thinking about that. Maybe the cash should... control should flow both ways, because I know that I am not the only one in here that has picked up lunch...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: ...when they have gone to lunch with lobbyists. I can look around and I know that, I have seen it. I have been in eating establishments close to the Capitol where other members have picked up the tab. I have been together during off season outside the Legislature events where other members have bought a round of drinks for a lobbyist. Shouldn't that reporting requirement flow in both directions? Am I not, in effect, using them directly or indirectly, I would argue directly, to my own benefit? So when I go to them and ask them for help on a proposal to help me to get your vote, shouldn't I have to report that as well and shouldn't they have to report my lunch to them as a gift. What is the distinction? I don't see one and I think that is one of the problems with this kind of legislation. Senator Haberman pointed out when he asked the question about who else does this affect? It only affects the members of the legislature. I think that...

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Time.

SENATOR HALL: ...is nearsighted as well. Again I would urge you to reject Senator Bromm's amendment and to take a look at what is in the AM4219. Thank you, Madam President.