

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

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LB 1021

SENATOR COORDSEN: That's right, Mr. Clerk.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Seeing no objection, so ordered.

SENATOR COORDSEN: (Recorder malfunction)...amendment is one that...and this is a serious amendment, by the way. On the last page of AM3201 is something we've talked about quite a bit. Remember that this bill is in two portions. One provides duties and responsibilities for registered lobbyists; the other portion is in regard to the reporting responsibilities of elected officials in Nebraska. First of all, there is a prohibition, and a current prohibition, that it is illegal to receive a gift from any registered lobbyist that is of more than \$50 in value. Illegal, okay? And that's okay. But we...currently, current law...and this has been in existence a long, long time, particularly when you consider inflation. On page 9, we propose to strike the current \$100, and rather than adjust...and this for gifts from people who are...fall into the broad category of not registered lobbyists nor members of your immediate family, everybody else in the world, your high school roommate...or high school classmate, your college roommate, your husband's best friend. I don't care. This is the category of people who might give you a gift that are not registered lobbyists and not members of your immediate family. This provision proposes to reduce that amount of \$100 down to \$50. And then it goes on, as Senator Schimek explained, and creates the categories, so that the recipient can make a best guess effort to categorize...based on good-faith estimate, is actually the language, of the individual required to report, in categories. What I'm proposing to you is that we restore the \$100. I happen to be of the opinion, number one, in 14 years, no one has given me a gift that even approached \$100. I've gotten a lot of static that I'm sure was valueless, or valuable, depending on who was giving it to me. But we live in the real world. You could not, under the change from \$100 down to \$50, really play golf with someone you...your business partner, for an example--not a registered lobbyist, not a member of your immediate family. I would suggest that this amendment be adopted to the current form of the bill. We can leave...go ahead and leave the rest of the categories in. They're really of not altogether that much, except the first category, I would certainly...with this