

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

April 4, 2000

LB 1021

here thinking about several trips that I've been on, frankly, and I know others have. It could involve Corrections, it could involve postsecondary education, it could involve Commission of the States, it could involve EPSCoR, it could involve some other things that are coming up, the task forces, this education task force that we're having. I don't know where that funding...but I call it, really, official business of the state, but is...many times it is not paid directly by the state, it's paid by groups that we belong to. Do these fall...and, again, Chris' amendment here, he talked about over \$50. Are those kind of, I call them official trips, involved in this, are those considered a gift when we're on official...because I can see, we could stretch...even official business of the state being stretched as being a gift from the state, because I...although I think technically we're employees. But I wonder where all of these meetings we go to...I've always used the basis that if I was not...if I was not a senator I would not be going, so therefore I'm not violating anything if I go because I'm a senator. But, on the other hand, these trips are not necessarily by state of Nebraska funds, but they are probably paid for by state of Nebraska funds indirectly, because these organizations belong to national groups who then turn around and fund spots for us to educate ourselves. But in a sense, in a strict sense, it's lobbying.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Senator, you're really referring to this part that says: a gift of an admission to a state-regulated industry?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Right. But it says also...right. But it...and I know it may not be directly related to what he's talking about, except it struck a chord as to whether these are...but it says an event, or event...to a state-owned facility or a state-regulated...

SENATOR SCHIMEK: I believe what was in mind here was a paid admission, a ticketed event. I think that's...I mean, I'm pretty certain...

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Okay, strictly here.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: ...that's what we had in mind. So you're raising a totally different question.