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LB 484

Since legislatures will not do their job, the courts must and, Senator Venditte, the courts are not as afraid of law enforcement as apparently you are. But I know you have a second problem because your brother is in it. That is not a situation with me and my judgments are made on my own. Oh, he has two brothers in it so you can consider the source and understand that a paid witness or one with an interest in a particular matter does not have the credibility of one who is not paid.

SPEAKER MARVEL: May I ask for a little more order in the Chamber. It is a little difficult for some to hear as the discussion goes on. Before we proceed in the North balcony from Senator Wesely's District, it is my pleasure to present 50 fourth grade students, two teachers and seven parents from Meadow Lane School in Lincoln, Nebraska and Amy Birky is their teacher. Would you hold up your hands so we can say hello to you? Senator Hoagland, do you wish to be recognized on the Chambers amendment? That is what we are on.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: I would like to rise in support of this particular amendment on the floor now, Mr. Speaker, and the reason I am doing so is I think we ought to first take a look at the statute that this bill would repeal. Now the statute that this bill would repeal insulates deputy sheriffs from the pressure by their superiors to involve themselves in county campaigns, campaigns for county office, not only for the sheriff's office that might be conducted by their superior, but by other county officials, county assessors, county surveyors, county commissioners and so forth. Now I think it is a very important protection for civil service employees to be insulated by statute so that they won't have to participate in campaigns against their will if they don't want to and I would like to take my colleagues back to the 1930's and back to the kind of factual situations we had around the country at that time that led to the passage of one of the most important civil service reforms back in those days, the Hatch Act, and I think if we recall the kind of abuses that led to the passage of the Hatch Act, why it will lend support for the proposition that Senator Chambers is correct, that it would be a mistake to repeal this particular statute and that it would make sense instead to amend it so that persons are allowed to participate in their own political campaigns but cannot be coerced to participate in the campaigns of their superiors or other persons at the county level that are seeking office. Now really it was a very serious situation back in the '30's because federal employees throughout the country were