

January 14, 1981

the street and his feet are moving the way they should move when you walk, that is coordinating the Chaplain, if he is a Chaplain. On the other hand, if he is coordinating other people who are going to be Chaplains, then it should end in an "s". This isn't even good syntax. It should be the Coordinator of the Chaplains, the Coordinator of the ad hoc, post hoc Chaplains. Now I am for Senator Dworak's amendment here because it is to work with organized groups of preachers. So if a person happens not to belong to an organized group, that person is automatically excluded by definition or by the requirements of the rule of the Legislature. Now I thought, Senator Dworak, religion was to be an all inclusive thing and you have just made it exclusive. Not only do you have to belong to a church, you have to belong to an organization in addition to that, an organization of ministers, or what....Mr. Clerk, would you read that, an organization of what? Or organized what?

CLERK: Organized Nebraska Groups of Clergy.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Organized Nebraska Groups of Clergy. You have got to be organized. It has to be Nebraska. They have to be groups and they have to be clergy. So if you are from I guess Iowa you can't come up here and say the prayer. Your prayers are not good enough because you don't live in Nebraska, and if you are one of these dissenters who won't belong to any organized groups of preachers, then you are disqualified too. This, I think, is the first honest and sincere thing that has been done by the Legislature to properly define what religion is and that role that it serves, which is one of exclusiveness, elitism and of putting oneself in a position of saying, draw not nigh unto me for I am holier than thou. Why even Jesus couldn't give the prayer. He couldn't. He didn't join organizations. In fact, he went into the church, overturned the tables of the moneychangers. He was anti-religious. This is really a good rule after Senator Dworak's amendment is adopted and I am sure that it will be. So I commend to the members of the Legislature Senator Dworak's amendment. I support it wholeheartedly one hundred percent that the only people who should be coordinated by the coordinator should be a member of an Organized Nebraska....a Nebraska Organized Group of Clergy or whatever they are, or wherever they are, just so they are in Nebraska. I am wondering if the definition of clergy will be supplied by the Legislature or by another rule, or if the Coordinator is going to be given authority to set up his own definition. These words do have historical and traditional meanings, so for my part I would say we go on back to tradition and history and let clergy