

the standards for license plates? One of the reasons could be is maybe because only one company that has reflective sheeting and that company is Minnesota Mining, they have patents on that item. 3M is the only one that has it. So who is in here pushing it and pushing these specifications? 3M. What is wrong with having bids taken? There must be something wrong or they wouldn't be fighting it so hard because this is free enterprise. The state takes bids on everything else. Why write specifications that will exclude a process or a firm? That isn't the way to do things but there must be a reason besides dollars. That is one reason. The other is that somebody is afraid they are going to lose a contract. So they say, boy, we are going to write this so that nobody else can bid. Tomorrow I will bring you a license plate and show you what happens to reflective plates in one year if you want to argue the quality of reflective plates over beaded plates, which I said a few minutes ago is not the issue. The issue is taking bids and then let the State Motor Vehicle Department set the standards like other states do. They don't do it on the legislative floor. They do it in the proper department. All right, so bring up the money issue if you want to. So you save \$500,000. Since when is that a drop in the bucket? But I say let's don't argue the savings. Let's argue taking the bids and then letting the people who are more knowledgeable than anybody on this floor as to the specifications and let them decide which plate is the best. I don't think it is up to the Legislature at all to set the standards or we should start to set them in all instances, on all things that the state takes bids on.

SPEAKER MARVEL: You have one minute.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Thank you. I think we are sticking our nose into something that isn't any of our business. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. Speaker and members, I, too, rise to oppose the DeCamp amendment for many of the same reasons put forth by Senator Beutler and Senator Haberman. I was on the committee when this issue first came up and quite honestly I didn't even realize until the issue came before the committee that we had reflectorized plates in the State of Nebraska. When you live out there where you are off the pavement or off the gravel roads in the State of Nebraska where the dust gets a little bit deep and hopefully we have a little mud once in awhile, it isn't long before that plate