

SPEAKER MARVEL: Okay, Senator Vickers, do you want to speak to the Haberman amendment?

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. Speaker and members, I rise to oppose the Haberman amendment. It seems to me that, well, first of all, in order to take the points that Senator Haberman raised one at a time, we dealt with an issue yesterday where there was a statement read as a proponent's point of view from the Governor's State of the State Message for a particular bill that we were dealing with. Senator Haberman just got through reading from a letter that he got from the Governor. I would remind this body that we have a separation of powers in the government of the United States of America and in particular the government of Nebraska. The executive branch has their job to do and the legislative branch has their job to do and the judicial branch has their job to do, and for me, at least, I am getting a little bit tired of hearing what Senator Thone wants done in this Chamber. I think it is our job to make that decision and it is his job to decide what he wants to do with it once that bill gets to his desk. That's as it should be. I don't particularly care whether the Governor likes this idea or not, I don't. Some of the reasons I don't. First of all, we give the law enforcement officials of this state a job to do, and then we start taking away from them their abilities to do that job, slowly one at a time. This is one of those areas. There are times to be fiscally responsible. That is true. But I think we need to weigh the benefits against fiscal responsibility, and I think this is one of those issues where the benefits would not be anywhere near enough to make up for the fiscal gains of the state if we only printed one plate. A couple of questions, if I may, Mr. Speaker, of Senator Haberman if he would respond, please.

SENATOR NICHOL PRESIDING

SENATOR NICHOL: Senator Haberman, would you respond, please?

SENATOR HABERMAN: To a fine gentleman like Senator Vickers, absolutely.

SENATOR VICKERS: Senator Haberman, you put out a handout that indicated that there is 101,000 plates in the State of Nebraska now, or vehicles in the State of Nebraska now with only one plate. The bottom one of those and one of the larger numbers is 30,000 government and miscellaneous.