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LB 192

I rise certainly to object to this amendment. First of all, I don't think it is an amendment to the amendments. I think it ought to stand on its own two feet, which I don't think it can do anyway. But this absolutely goes contrary to what the bill intends to do. When the state comes out and harasses somebody, whether it be a person or a corporation, the state should not be allowed to do this nor should the individual or corporation have to stand their legal expense. This is a parallel of the bill we passed a few weeks ago in which it says, when the state makes a mistake, it shouldn't be up to the public to pay for legal defense when the state makes a mistake. We have a typical example of this in the Panhandle right now where the state is out harassing about five or six individuals and a corporation, a couple of corporations, and absolutely I think they are going to lose the case, but if they do, I don't think it should be up to some of these individuals and corporations to spend thousands of dollars defending it, and they are actually spending several thousand in this particular case to defend that. I think this is a terrible amendment to expect us to accept and I don't think we should do it. I think if Senator Hoagland and Kilgarin and whoever else signed this want a bill of this nature, then go at it, but this is absolutely contrary to what the bill says. I have no pride of authorship in the bill, but I certainly go along with it and think we should reject the amendment to the amendment that has been suggested.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Kahle.

SENATOR KAHLE: I call the question.

SENATOR CLARK: The question has been called for. Do I see five hands? I do. All those in favor of ceasing debate vote aye. All those opposed vote nay.

CLERK: Senator Clark voting aye.

SENATOR CLARK: Have you all voted on ceasing debate? Record the vote.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 2 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SENATOR CLARK: Debate is ceased. Senator Hoagland.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Mr. President and colleagues, I want to share my closing time with Senator Kilgarin and Senator Vickers because I think they both want to talk on this. In response to what Senator Nichol said, you know, he was talking about suits that are going to be for harassment, the state harassing somebody, well, you know, a suit which