

April 5, 1982

LB 568

system in the City of Omaha, or at least in the past, you had a better chance of being arrested and charged with DWI in Lincoln than in Omaha, is that right?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: That is what the World Herald study showed, Senator Schmit, right.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well do you believe the World Herald or don't you?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: I have no reason to dispute their findings.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Fine. Do you have reason to believe that it will be different in the future?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Well a lot of us in Omaha are hopeful that the new Police Chief is going to take a different attitude towards the enforcement of DWI laws.

SENATOR LAMB: One minute, Senator.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Let me be brief, Senator Schmit. One reason police officers don't like to enforce current DWI laws is because the judges turn the people loose all of the time after the police officers come down and hang around the court house on two or three occasions for half a day.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you, Senator Hoagland. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I think we just touched upon something that you should be aware of, which the public should be aware of and the press should be aware of, the facts are that even though we pass this bill and go back home and tell the folks that we have passed a tough anti-drunken driving bill that it is still up to the arresting officer number one, prosecuting attorney number two, and the judge number three as to whether or not the individual faces that kind of a charge and that in the past in the City of Omaha there has been a much less opportunity or much less of the odds of your being charged with that kind of crime than outstate.

SENATOR LAMB: Your time is up, Senator.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Chambers, on the amendment.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I'm looking at the lower half of a handout that Senator Nichol

10108