

April 8, 1982

LB 807

SENATOR HEFNER: Certainly, Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Have you ever had campaign workers assist you in your campaigns?

SENATOR HEFNER: Yes, I have.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Did you ever pay any of them?

SENATOR HEFNER: Not to my knowledge.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you think it would be or should be illegal to pay campaign workers?

SENATOR HEFNER: Yes, I think it is illegal to pay them.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Do you think it should be illegal to reimburse them for their expenses?

SENATOR HEFNER: I believe I would have to say "yes".

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you.

SENATOR HEFNER: Senator Chambers, what kind of a grade did I get on my quiz the other night? Did I get a gold star?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Hefner, you don't want to know that but I will talk about that in private with you like teachers always do with their students who don't quite cut the mustard. But, members of the Legislature, when we are talking about these petitions, they are political in nature and I believe there are certain things that have to be done with reference to accountability of, you know, the Political Accountability Commission when you circulate these petitions dealing with various issues. So to try to indicate that the expenses of people who circulate petitions ought not be reimbursed I think is ridiculous. There is not that kind of purity in the political process in Nebraska or anywhere else. Purely and simply this is an amendment which is desired by the people who did not like the fact that a petition drive was launched to put the bottle bond issue on the ballot. That is all that it is. Again I hear the sanctimonious conservatives trotting around here talking about the state ought to have the power to do this, the state ought to do that, and you are scared to death of outside agitators. Now here come a bunch of outside agitators dictating to you as to how the law relative to initiatives ought to read in Nebraska. You were saying that people whose