

I think I will get exposure on Channel 3 for this. I will probably get a lot more exposure than I ever wanted from now on from Channel 3. But let me ask you this. Has any TV ever done a series of shows on this Legislature showing some of you sleeping? Have they ever shown a series showing some of you eating popcorn and ice cream so you look stupid to your constituents? Or picking your nose, to put it in the venacular of the street? You want to talk about who is fair in the coverage of this Legislature? Now maybe 20 Senators are going to get some good coverage out of the commercial TV stations and God knows where I am going to end up, but I have faith and confidence in my constituents, and when it comes to coverage of this Legislature, I don't count two or three minutes on any commercial television newscast as full coverage. But the 30 minutes that they give every evening of the Legislature I think does something for the entire population of Nebraska. Those who get angry with us and those who wish to be informed on what is going on know there is at least 30 minutes of coverage to tell them what we are trying to do down here, and I don't want to send them the message today that I am trying to keep them ignorant of what we are trying to do here. And, I, for one, would never vote to cut out ETV, and you never see me on ETV either. You know why? Because when I get up to speak I always have to face the camera in such a way that my back is to it, so they never cover me on ETV so I am not raising any points for myself with ETV doing this. I am just trying to tell it like it is, Senators. So if you want to go with this amendment and do away with ETV, maybe then you can when you do vote write a letter to all your constituents and tell them, we thought that \$73,000 would have been better spent than educating you and letting you know what really goes on down here and in letting you know we do more than eat popcorn and lick ice cream cones. Thank you.

SENATOR LAMB: The Chair recognizes Senator Vickers.

SENATOR VICKERS: Mr. Speaker and members I also rise to oppose this amendment. I sometimes wonder if the members of this body really recognize and remember the uniqueness that we have in Nebraska. We are one of the most open Legislatures in the nation, not necessarily because of ETV but because of many of the rules, many of the ways that we operate and I as a member of this body am very proud of that, and I think ETV is part of that also. I certainly wouldn't want to be a party to anything that would do away with part of that openness. As a matter of fact, I would like to increase it if anything. I think it is unfortunate that my constituents are not able to watch us live on Cable like they can here in Lincoln or in parts of Omaha. I believe in time they perhaps will be able to. I think if I stand up here and make some dumb statement, my constituents need to have the opportunity to know it, or if I sit here and go to sleep, they need to know that too. I am not ashamed of what happens down here and I don't think anybody else should be. I am proud of what we do. Collectively, I think we need to be proud and we need to make that point known more. As a matter of fact, I would like to see the show that ETV is able to put on out in my area moved up to an earlier point in the evening so that more people would have an opportunity to see it. So in short, there is no way that I am going to support this amendment, I don't care how many cointroducers there were on it. Thank you.