

would move to amend the bill, Mr. President. Senator, would you like me to read the amendment or...? (Read Haberman amendment. See page 454 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR L. JOHNSON: The Chair recognizes Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, there is a story behind this amendment and I would like to take the time to explain it to you. Quite a few months ago I became concerned about where, why and how rules and regulations are published in the paper and throughout the state. So in doing so, I discovered, and if you look on page 2 of the handout, I discovered that over half of the agencies do not, and I repeat, do not publish in the World-Herald. So I said to myself, well, this is kind of unusual. The World-Herald is obviously the biggest newspaper in the state. They obviously go to every nook and cranny in the state. However, over half the state agencies do not publish in the World-Herald. So the next question that I asked was, why? Because I thought somewhere there was a statute that says that they should. So upon further investigation, if you turn to the fourth letter or page in your handout, Allen Beermann says that he does not use the World-Herald, he does not use the World-Herald for constitutional amendments proposed by the Legislature and they do not...he does not use it for any initiative or referendum petitions, although he is directed by the law to publish in all of the weeklies and daily newspapers this notice. And he is directed by law that he is to pay 32 cents per line, but he does not publish it in the World-Herald because they charge much more than 32 cents a line. And he does not want to have any liability against his office for paying more than the law says. Now also in your pamphlet you will find two letters from the World-Herald themselves, and they state in their letters that they do not have a legal rate schedule because it has always been their policy to charge the regular line rate. There are two letters in there that state that. Also in your pamphlet on the last page is the legal statute that sets the rates a newspaper shall charge. So not knowing where to go, I got the Attorney General involved and I wrote and asked his opinion. The first letter says, while you are correct that the statute does place into law the legal rate for public notices, there is currently no way to enforce that statute criminally as there are no criminal sanctions or penalties for variances of the statute. So in visiting with the Attorney General, I asked him how could we correct this. And he said, Rex, he said, it's real simple. All you do is put an