

original scope. This is a very simple little bill. Do you want to give them a 15 percent increase, or don't you? Senator Haberman's amendment last week raised a constitutional question, and I requested an opinion from the counsel of the Nebraska Press Association, which we have on our desks. And Mr. Peterson raises some very interesting points, some very interesting issues, some of which speak to the question and some of them don't. I believe that the important point that Mr. Peterson makes is that statutes setting rates in the United States are common and they have been held to be constitutional. That is number one. Constitutional, that is, unless they impair existing contracts or unless they try to force a paper to print something. Now as I remember the amendment, which we are talking about reconsidering, it finds a newspaper guilty of a crime for charging more than the statutory rate. And, if I am interpreting Mr. Peterson's letter correctly, that is coming dangerously close to being unconstitutional, though I rise in support of the motion to reconsider, at this point, because I think when we start considering seriously leaving the amendment on the bill, we are dangerously close to having an unconstitutional bill. And I think there is no question the Supreme Court would suggest to us that they are protected, the papers that is, under the first amendment, the freedom of speech provisions. Though I, at this point, don't understand why we need the amendment, I guess and, secondly, I think Senator Landis raises some interesting points which might be worthy of some consideration on Select File, although they, too, might open another can of worms and get into an area in which we really don't need to be getting into. So, I would move to reconsider, or I would encourage the reconsideration because I think we do have an amendment here which is constitutionally suspect. And, frankly, that is not what 298 is all about. I would urge the body to adopt the reconsideration. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Smith, please, then Senator Haberman.

SENATOR SMITH: Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I would like to ask a few questions of Senator Haberman and I hope Senator Ashford is around, because maybe, Senator Haberman, you were visiting with him, maybe you can answer the question I was going to ask him. First of all, when he was standing up talking, was he saying that he thought that rates should be published at cost? Was he talking about requiring that rates be published at cost? I mean that the legal notice be published at cost? Is that what