

of notices that we have to in our more rural areas, it was because of the fact that supposedly they are much more close to media and to being informed. Now I'm not sure I'd agree with that. I think if you go into a little town, anywhere in town, everyone knows what everyone else does, and they know where all the meetings are going to be held, too, because they all participate in all those meetings. So maybe we need to look at what we are requiring of subdivisions and agencies, et cetera, and not deal with this on this piece of legislation, but hold it up for that point in time. I'd certainly like to get Senator Haberman's input when we did that. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator Smith. Senator Moore, then followed by Senator Abboud.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. President, members, as you know now the bill, LB 298, as it is stripped of the Haberman amendment, simply will raise that legal rate. I'm going to vote for that. Now when we voted out the Haberman amendment, we voted out the part of the bill that was dealing with the problem we have with the one paper in the state. Now I still...right now that problem we have, if it's a problem, whatever you want to call it, maybe problem is not the proper word, but the only paper in the state that charges over the legal rate right now is the Omaha World-Herald. One hundred and ninety-seven other papers charge at or below the legal rate. And I want to mention several charge below the legal rate. But my concern is, after the discussion we've had, what is going to stop the 197 other papers from not charging over the legal rate? I think now that we've had this discussion, I understand Senator Smith has mentioned maybe we should study this, and maybe if we cannot do it this year, we sure as heck continue to look at it because I am concerned now that we've opened this can of worms. And, Senator Haberman, like I said, I apologize to him for getting to the point, but I do think we have to deal with it. But for the time being let's advance LB 298. I would like to work with Senator Landis, Senator Haberman, Senator Barrett. Senator Warner didn't sound like...he was willing to let well enough alone it sounded like, I guess. But I would like to work between now and Select File to try and solve the problem so those 197 papers that are now at or below the legal rate don't for some reason feel they have the ability to go over and above it. I think we do need to deal with the problem. For the time being, let's move 298 and address the overall issue at a later time on Select File, or over the summer.