

that or not. Maybe I should wait until the bill, Mr. President, because I do want to speak on the bill instead of this amendment.

PRESIDENT: All right, Senator Lindsay, please, followed by Senator Abboud.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Senator Chambers in his argument stated that it appears that the prostitutes do follow the race tracks and I am suggesting that maybe we ought to think about selling the race track up in Omaha as a...let me respond to some of Senator Chambers' arguments. First of all, and I apologize, I didn't hear the answer to the last question and I am not clear on exactly what the amendment is. Would Senator Chambers respond to a question?

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes, I will.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Senator, is this the amendment that is on page 673 of the Journal that refers to competency to testify?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes.

SENATOR LINDSAY: Okay, thank you. I think, first, the amendment that is suggested is not going to cure those problems that Senator Chambers points out. All this amendment will do is eliminate the sting operations which is the only real method of enforcing the prostitution ordinance right now or the prostitution statute as it would exist. It does nothing more than that. Some of the problems that Senator Chambers points out with regards to the disparate treatment of male versus female I don't think exist in more recent times, I guess, primarily because at least in Omaha one of the ways they have found to deter prostitution is to cut down on the number of customers. In 1988, there were 233 arrests in Omaha for soliciting prostitution. There were 334 male arrests. There were about half again as many male as female arrests. This is not a bill that drives only at the female, at the prostitute, it drives at both. This, and as a matter of fact, as being enforced in Omaha right now, the ordinance, it is resulting in more male arrests than it is resulting in female arrests. This is not intended as a bill to be some...act in some way discriminatory towards women. It is just not the intent or the