

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Thank you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, if you'll recall, we had Final Reading the morning of following a fairly significant snowstorm that kept a lot of people from getting to the Chamber on time to vote on Final Reading. Among those were several senators from Omaha, including the principal introducer of LB 165. The vote was in the majority for passage, however, there was not enough votes to bring LB 165 to final approval so I offered the motion to reconsider this at a time when the principal introducer, Senator Chambers, would be on the floor. I'm not going to steal a lot of his thunder nor necessarily make a big speech on the virtues of the bill, however, I do support the bill. I don't believe there was a major discussion on the bill or at least major objections voiced during either stage of consideration, General File or Select File, so it is somewhat of a surprise to many of us on the floor that the bill did come up with objections on Final Reading. So, hopefully, we will have a chance today to talk about the merits of the bill and those who have opposition or concerns have a chance to express those so we can hear them in public forum and ultimately get to a decision to reconsider our vote on Final Reading and, hopefully, pass the bill on Final Reading. With that, I would like to turn over the rest of my time, if desirable, since there will be more than the five minutes, to Senator Chambers if he desires.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Chambers, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I appreciate Senator Hannibal making the reconsideration motion and it was surprising to me that so many voted against the bill when there hadn't been any opposition expressed to it, any of any significance, during its process, its progress across the board. So because I don't know why the people who voted against it did so, I would like to hear what their objections are and then I will attempt to meet those objections so that the bill can be passed. I should make it clear that the bill was brought at the request of the City of Omaha and agreed to by all of the members of the city council including those, naturally, whose terms will be affected by it. It is... I'm not going to try to anticipate what the objections are because I don't know, but I am curious to find out what they are. I am in support of the reconsideration motion and, obviously, I will vote finally for the passage of the bill.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Discussion on the reconsideration