

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Well, members of the body, due to the questions raised by the Policy Research Office of the Attorney General which, in my opinion and it should be yours, are good questions, I would like to see us hold this bill and not advance it today until we get those answers because what are we going to do when it's the law, federal law, that the state has to spend money in excess of the legal rate in the World-Herald? They are breaking the law. The state agency is breaking the law. But evidently that seems to be all right in this case because it's the World-Herald. But until that question is answered, until the question is answered, how does the state legally break the law, I don't think we ought to advance this bill because I don't know of any way the State of Nebraska can legally break the law.

PRESIDENT: Time.

SENATOR HABERMAN: So it is going to be interesting to see what happens. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Senator Schmit, please.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Well, Mr. President and members, we have an extremely interesting paradox here. Apparently in Douglas County, the Douglas County Board will be able to nail a sign on the courthouse door and notify 500,000 people in Douglas County of the legal notices as prescribed by state law. But in Butler County, because the newspaper there may be willing to print it for the legal rate, then the county board is forced to spend the money to publish in the newspaper. Now I've always supported fair rates for newspaper publishing particularly when those rates are...when those practices are mandated by this Legislature. But it would seem to me that if 500,000 people in Douglas County can march single file down to the Douglas County Courthouse and read the notice on the courthouse steps every morning, then those of us in Butler County can probably do the same thing and 500 people in Arthur County can probably do the same thing, and it is an interesting situation that the greater number of people are going to be sufficiently notified by a notice on the courthouse door but they are not sufficiently notified in such a manner in Butler County if the newspaper there is willing to publish for the legal rate. So now we have the bare truth out here and that is that we have really