

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Madam Chair, I move that the E & R amendments be adopted.

SENATOR LABEDZ: All those in favor say aye. Opposed. They are adopted.

CLERK: Madam President, the first amendment I have to the bill is by Senator Bernard-Stevens. It is on page 1260 of the Journal.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Senator Bernard-Stevens, on the amendment to LB 340.

SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS: Thank you, Madam President. Members of the body, when we last debated this bill on General File, this amendment was pending along with an amendment of Senator Chambers, I believe, and this amendment was pulled simply because we were getting close to the noon hour, and it was important I felt time we get to a vote on 340 to at least advance it to Select File. I mentioned to the body at that time I would then be reintroducing the amendment on Select File and this is that amendment. I would like to give just a little bit of history, and then we will open it up to any further debate or whatever may happen in the process of the saga of 340 today. One of the things that I would like to be first to say is I had relatively little interest in the bill when it was first introduced as I was not directly related, and I had not met any of the people that were involved. The bill came to the committee of which I am a part of, the Government Committee, and I became even more interested and intrigued as the hearing went on and this entire process has gone on. One of the things that has always concerned me is the tremendous amount of confusion that has been between the Historical Society and the Pawnee Tribe and others that were involved as to in trying to identify what goods, particularly burial goods, would specifically be returned and which would not, and that has always intrigued me because, to kind of review the body just a little bit, the Pawnee, with Dr. Svingen of Nebraska Wesleyan and others, asked the Historical Society for the records and for the information needed in order for them to verify to their judgment which burial goods would, indeed, be returned. The Historical Society says to me, and I have no reason not to believe them, that they gave all of those information and records to the Pawnee. The Pawnee, with their attorneys, with their staff, with