

yards. And when I looked at this bill I didn't look at it as a bill to help particularly businessmen or anyone else, although that's fine, I guess, if it does, if it's within the realm of the law. I looked at it as other individuals who are unsuspecting totally of what can happen and then are hurt, maimed in very severe ways, as has happened, on private property. And I looked at this bill as a way to take care of that definite problem. And I think that having said that, and having supported Senator Abboud in his intent, that surely as a body we can look at this and improve it. So I think it should be passed on to the second stage of reading. And, with not saying any more, I think I'd like to give the rest of my time to Senator Haberman, if he would like to have that time. Senator.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Senator Haberman, approximately two and a half minutes.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Well, Mr. President and members of the body, I would like to call to your attention the committee statement that was issued with this legislation. Now the proponents of this bill was the City of Omaha, the Lincoln Police Department, the Red Willow County Attorney, the Department of Motor Vehicles, and the Nebraska Council on Alcoholism and Drug Education. There was one opponent, just one opponent, and guess who that was? That was the Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorneys Association. So you had one opponent, and you had all of those proponents. I think it's good legislation. What people don't understand, maybe they understand it but they don't want to accept in their mind is that alcohol is a drug, no matter how you cut it, no matter how you look at it, it's a drug. So everybody goes off on these big tangents and says we have to hire more patrolmen, we have to hire more investigators, we have to do something about this terrible drug program. But nobody, no one has said alcohol is a drug and we should put this much emphasis on alcohol. So I would like to have you consider,...

PRESIDENT NICHOL PRESIDING

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR HABERMAN: ...when you vote on this amendment and on this bill, that alcohol is a drug, it should be treated just as the drugs that are in the press today and the pushers that are in the press today and support this issue when it comes to alcohol. Thank you, Mr. President.