

Mr. Stoeckel. Thank you so much. The interpreter and escort, Mr. David Edminster. Thank you so much for visiting us, for being guests of the most unique state legislature in America today. Thank you. The chair recognizes Senator Chizek for further discussion on the amendment to the amendment.

SENATOR CHIZEK: Mr. Speaker, earlier someone had asked Senator Coordsen about how many...I think Senator David Bernard-Stevens, about how many employers were testing in Nebraska and he wasn't sure. I think at this point the number is probably minimal. However, it is on the increase. Most, most larger law enforcement agencies are beginning to test, most law enforcement agencies will be testing periodically as we go along, Senator, so I'm not sure how many other businesses are there are...that are involved, but I know the numbers have been increasing every year and so that is why we must be sure that we have state of the art and that there is no room for error because I think that part of the problem we might experience early on, you know, that we had heard there are those people who would eat a poppy seed kolace under certain conditions and test positive. Senator, I know up in your district you eat poppy seed kolaces and I wouldn't want you to lose your job because you tested positive. So that's why we need to have the state of the art. That's why we need the protection for everyone concerned, Senator, the protection not only for the employee, but ultimately for the employer, and I think if we don't have these kinds of protections built in for the people, that we're probably going to be seeing lawsuits and that we should be sure that we avoid all of these kinds of problems as we address this legislation. So I would support Senator Hall's amendment and I think there are probably some other things, I think Senator Bernard-Stevens has an amendment up that I could probably even support, too, because I think we're talking about a very important issue, an issue that is going to affect people from the western borders of this state to the eastern borders. We're going to...we're talking about trucking, we're talking about railroads, we're talking about airlines and these we don't have much control over unless they are employed in this particular industry and have a classification that falls out of the category that is tested. Then where do they fall? Is this one of the people that falls between the cracks? I think these are all questions that we need to address and deal with and I would urge your support of Senator Hall's amendment.

SPEAKER BARRETT: Thank you. Senator Chambers on the Hall