

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, I received a phone call this summer from a lady, and her name is Hazel. And I said, what did you say your last name was? She said, my last name is Grapes. I said, I beg your pardon, ma'am. She said, it's Grapes, G-r-a-p-e-s. And I said, could you speak up a bit, ma'am. She said, I'm 74 years old, and she says, you're gonna have to listen, and I don't feel good. So she got my attention. She lives up in the Sandhills, north of Brule, Nebraska, up in the "toolies", so to speak. She says, I have a problem, and I'll drive down to Imperial to talk to you about it. I said, oh no, Hazel, I'll meet you in Ogallala, at the Holiday Inn. So I met her at the Holiday Inn in Ogallala, and she's a sweet little old lady, I'll tell you. It's too bad she was 74 years old. But anyway, Hazel came down out of the Sandhills one day, and was driving along the highway, and the Highway Department was doing some repair work. So she had to get over and travel in the wrong lane, and she drove real slow. She said, you know, I don't drive very fast, I really can't see too good. She said, a gravel truck went by, of the State of Nebraska, and the gravel truck, the gravel came off and broke Hazel's windshield. I said, well...and she says, I don't have that kind of insurance, we don't have it up where I live. So I told her the steps to go through, and she went through the steps. She put in a claim for \$238.55. It was denied. The Highway Department fought her tooth and toenail, made her jump through every hoop, fill out forms and do everything for \$238.55. They're not going to admit that their gravel broke her windshield. So I told her, Hazel, I'll tell you what I'm going to do, I'll take it to the body and ask them if they would allot you your \$238.50, that is my request, and I ask you to approve the amendment. Thank you, Mr. President.

SPEAKER BAACK: Discussion on Senator Haberman's amendment. Senator Coordsen.

SENATOR COORDSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I resist all temptations to comment on Senator Haberman's opening, but rather get to the issue of the denied claim. And I recommend that this claim not be approved. Miscellaneous claim 91-027, description, claimant contends that a Department of Roads construction crew gravel...highway number 26, very heavy, and she met a State of Nebraska trucker or car who threw up a rock and broke her windshield. Agency recommendation--claimant alleges that state truck or car threw up gravel, damaging her