

May 7, 1991

LB 849

and indeed I get very angry when I see us discriminating against Nebraska businesses. I'm going to support Senator Lynch's amendment and, Senator Hall, if you read in this amendment, it says preference shall be given to bidders and applicants for contracts based in Nebraska if the cost and benefits are equal or superior to those available from competing persons. It does not cut out competition, it simply says if they are equal or superior, we're going to consider the Nebraska contracts. But it also goes on then to say that if indeed a Nebraska business does not get this contract, then that bidder outside of Nebraska that does, shall establish a permanent office. That isn't brick and mortar. They don't have to build a building, but they do have to establish some space, some contact, some permanent office somewhere so we have some kind of connection and we have some kind of relationship to that company that is in Nebraska. I think this is a good amendment. I think it will work and I think it's about time that we recognize that Nebraska businesses can provide us with the things that we need. I support Senator Lynch's amendment.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Pirsch. Senator Hefner.

SENATOR HEFNER: Question.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The question has been called. Are there sufficient seconds? Okay, I see sufficient seconds. All those in favor of the motion to cease debate please vote aye, opposed vote nay. Have you all voted? Have you all voted on the motion to cease debate? Have you all voted? Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 21 ayes, 7 nays to cease debate, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: The motion fails. Senator Schmit, do you wish to speak to this?

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members, it always brings tears to my eyes when a member of the body gets up and defends the right of Nebraskans to be in business and particularly in this kind of an area. I would hope that the Legislature prior to the time that this bill becomes law, will take a look at the surrounding states and copy the good things that they have done in an attempt to regulate gambling. The State of Iowa has done an excellent job. They contract with one pickle manufacturer and they distribute the pickles through the Department of Revenue. Now I know that cuts some guys out of some business,