

time they published all the names and all the salaries in the newspaper there was an uproar in the community. Many of these employees, not only in these other small towns but a lot of these employees don't want their names used, because once that's published, the names and everything, then some of your bigger towns come out and...and say, hey, we'll give you 25 cents an hour more. So this makes it more difficult for those communities to do this. The issue is not the excess of information, the issue is whether taxpayers pay to publish it in a newspaper. Only smaller municipalities and counties are required to publish the names and salaries of employees. It's really interesting that Lincoln...Lincoln and Omaha do not have to publish these names. And why don't they want to publish them? Because they make less money on this. They're more interesting in the big advertising bucks than these names of what's being published. So I think the bill is fine in its present form and I ask for you to turn down this motion and let's vote the bill forward and passage and signed by the Governor. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Peterson. Before we proceed with debate, I would like to call the senators' attention to the south balcony. Special guests today of Senator Conway are 32 students from South Sioux City High School Criminal Justice class and their teacher. Would you please rise and be recognized. Welcome to the Chamber. Thank you. Senator Schimek, followed by Senators Hartnett, Beutler, Crosby, Nelson, Will, Withem and Abboud. Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, Madam President and members of the body, I hope I got that right this afternoon, Madam President. I rise in support of Senator Crosby's motion to return this to Select File. And I have to tell you, I keep going back and forth on this issue and I'm not really certain, Senator Crosby, if I'm going to vote to detach the bill or not. But just...just a couple of things that I would like to say. First of all, I'm one of those people who has had her name published in the paper because of my salary when I lived in Hastings, Nebraska as a teacher. And I have to tell you, the first time I saw it I felt kind of strange that the whole community would know what my take-home pay was. But I got used to it very quickly and I...and I think it is good public information. I don't think the average citizen is going to go and find out what each individual employee is making or even...maybe even wouldn't even bother to find out what the different categories are paid, so at