

asked Senator Dierks a question, earlier asked who was liable for a person's dog's damages and I would share with you from practical personal experience that whoever has the better liability policy is the owner who is responsible. If...but on a serious matter, though, if we are going to look at this issue in another year then we need to add into this a section of law protecting the owner of a dog from those who might provoke that animal into attack because that can happen and does happen and if it's neither the...really the dog's fault nor the animal's owner's fault, but those sorts of occurrences do happen so if we revisit this issue in another year it's something that we need to...need to keep in mind while we're doing it. Thank you, Madam President.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Coordsen. Senator Cudaback.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Madam President, members, it's hard to share another person's grief, as we all know, and it seems like a minor thing until it happens to you. Unfortunately, it happens to many people. We know we have a dog problem around the various smaller communities. The bigger communities have this problem solved by people who pick up the stray dogs. Smaller cities or smaller villages do not have this dog catcher. We have the problem. If this can help the people harbor the dogs, why, I'm for keeping the bill as presently exists. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MOUL: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. Senator Schrock.

SENATOR SCHROCK: Madam President, I would remind the body that, under our current statutes, if you're trespassing on somebody's property and you are attacked by a dog, the dog owner is not liable. This LB 1011 does not change that. You're still not liable. The true fact of the matter is, Senator Chambers, that in a...as you know, last Thursday a lot of bills fell by the wayside and we could have debated the issue for a long time had we decided to try the amendments that you think were appropriate for this bill. We could have spent two or three days on this. We could have had the insurance companies and the trial attorneys and everybody very excited about it. Could have spent a long time on it. As you know, I've passed over this bill on Final Reading before because I did not want to take the body's time for that. Now this is very simple. It doesn't do much, but I think there's probably a case or two between now and the next legislative session where it could be beneficial for someone who was harmed by a dog and I think it's appropriate that we do this