

\$20,000 a year job that Senator Jensen is talking about, and it is very easy to assign those jobs to others. This bill is going to have no economic impact on the industry. What it does is cause this state to assume its responsibilities toward all the human beings who live and work in this state. And I hope there are enough of you who feel a moral and ethical responsibility to ensure that people, who are tricked into coming to this state, are not going to be further exploited. You should ask Senator Jensen and Senator Matzke why these problems exist right now.

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: What they'd have to say is because the companies don't have any price to pay if they lie, if they misrepresent, if they put these people in substandard housing, if they let them stay there two weeks, then evict them and being in another van load. There is no price to pay so they will continue to do it and these problems are stacking up in Omaha right now. They exist in Norfolk right now, to some extent in Lexington, North Platte, Grand Island, but these men who have never had to soil their hands don't see it as a serious enough problem for the Legislature to impose a penalty clause but I do. So I hope you will accept my amendment.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Matzke followed by Senator Preister.

SENATOR MATZKE: Mr. Speaker, and members of the Legislature, I think Senator Chambers is getting somewhat off on a tangent on this bill, and I understand his motivations. Certainly neither Senator Jensen or I are defending any of the misuse of employees or bad housing. What this bill does is essentially establish a labor contract between an employer and an employee. We are writing the contract here. This bill would write the contract. And what the bill says is that if one party violates the contract, they could be treated as a criminal. That is what I object to. I would like to respond to Senator Beutler's criticism. He referred to Section 6, which is the provision that provides that any aggrieved party can file suit in district court. He talks only of damages. If this bill is passed, it will be the law, and the meat packers will have to obey it. If they do not obey it, a suit for damages would not be necessary. The bill permits any type of suit to be filed in district court, which could include injunctive relief, and any representative of the group of employees could go to court and get a court order compelling the...compelling the defendants, who would be the