

public interest. I don't buy it. Unfortunately, I don't think that the fight is on the rate which is in 418. I think the fight is on what is proper public notice and what isn't. And every time we get into this moment, this is the only vulnerable moment for the press. Every time we get to the issue of should we cut back the public notice, we can expect what we're going to have. We're going to have a whole lot of contact out in the lobby. As a matter of fact, the only illegal lobbying I've ever heard of in my years in the Legislature has been done by rumor and gossip that one of my colleagues told me. One of his small town newspapers had a position in opposition to a bill that I'd introduced to cut back on public notice and the newspaperman said if you vote for the bill I will not endorse you at the next election. Check the statutes. That is a criminal act. That is a criminal act. What is it? It says that it offers an election inducement in exchange for a vote on the Legislature. That's a criminal act and the only one I've ever heard that done by a small town publisher to one of my colleagues in this body, but that kind of adurance occurs when we try to cut back public notices that just don't make sense. I'm going to throw up a red light. I don't expect it will stop this bill, but what I want to do is I want to make the point that we have too many public notices...

SPEAKER WITHEM: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...some of whom do not serve legitimate public purposes, and every time we try to cut those back we get the Nebraska Press Association beating us up like crazy, threatening us and we are unable to do good faith negotiation. This is the only avenue we have to do that. It will pass by. They'll get exactly what they'll want and we will have a statute riddled with public notices that make sense and public notices that don't make sense and we won't ever be able to do anything about it because of the political lay of the land and that's what bugs me about 418.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Avery, followed by Senator Chambers.

SENATOR AVERY: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I wasn't going to say anything more, but I applaud Senator Landis for bringing up those points. I really think this is going to have a greater reaching impact than many of us think when you get into the requirements on publication, and it's out there. It's going to