

cases right now. As a matter of fact, there are a number of employers in Nebraska right now that already have this standard built into their personnel policies. This is not something new to the state. It's clearly not something new to the country. There are a number of states, there are a number of cities, there are a number of counties and other subdivisions of government who have already adopted this type of standard, saying that we believe that discrimination is wrong and we extend that protection to these types of individuals who happen to fall under this definition. I don't think that's bad policy. As a matter of fact, I think it's very good policy and I would hope the body would adopt this amendment, knowing that we may not get to a vote on it either. But the fact of the matter is I do appreciate Senator Chambers raising it. I do believe though that what's found in LB 886 is a compromise proposal that really needs to be addressed. It appears that it probably won't be addressed this year. That's fine, that's part of the Legislative process. But next year it needs to come right to the front again as we deal with committee priority bills and it needs to be passed. There may be some changes that folks attempt to make in the form of amendments and that's fine. The amendment that Senator Chambers has in the bill right now is one that ought to be addressed and ought to be dealt with in its entirety as an amendment to this bill. But the underlying proposal needs to be done to make the commission operate in a more efficient and effective manner. The proposal is not one that ties the hands of the commission, actually it gives them much more latitude in terms of dealing with complaints, dealing with the respondents and the complainants. It allows for, I think, a more effective and efficient operation of the commission. That's what we try to accomplish in government from time to time, and I appreciate all those who spoke whether they question issues in the bill or spoke to concerns that they had to the original bills as they were introduced. I would again urge your adoption of this amendment, the committee amendments and the final passage of the bill at the appropriate time.

SENATOR CROSBY: One minute.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President.

SENATOR CROSBY: Thank you, Senator Hall. Senator Beutler, on the Chambers amendment.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Senator Crosby, members of the Legislature,