

this for some other different reasons. We have...and I look at this as a mandate. We have provisions here that we have set the price. I think possibly it needs to go to a free market. What we have to realize is that we have to change the restrictions that pieces have to be published in the papers. And I know there's some leeway in there. But communities, the only mechanism they have is utilizing newspapers. They can post them. And I would hope potentially this brings out that mechanism where the minutes and different things can be posted. We have other restrictions, though, that we state in the constitution that our amendments have to be published X amount of times. I had some legislation, and it was opposed by the press, to change that and possibly look at a different mechanism in order to probably bring that information to the public. In terms of papers, the World-Herald does not publish a lot of things. They say they can't do it because it costs too much. But if we would reduce the requirements, these requirements that we put down and the number of times of publication, we would reduce that, they possibly would. They serve probably 25 percent of the state in terms of the readers. If they could at least publish it once we would know that some of this information would get out to more people. So my opposition is in terms of here we are restricting and it's kind of locking in a special market for the press to utilize, to make its money. And if we could take off these restrictions in terms of how much they are paid and let free enterprise pay its way, then we must also require and restrict and remove the mandates that publications have to be. And what I have received today is the press is not willing to allow that to happen. Thank you.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, I'm not going to prolong the discussion and I don't have an amendment to offer, but I had to unburden myself on this particular bill. Senator Landis pointed out, the last time we were discussing this, how whenever an attempt is made, and this is for Senator Witek's benefit about these mandates, whenever an attempt is made to reduce the number of mandated public notices to be published the news media are the ones who come running in here and say, do not do that, we want these publications to be required, these publications of the notice because we need the money. We've heard it argued in prior levels of debate on this bill that some of these newspapers cannot make it without this government subsidy. And we were told furthermore by way of