

January 10, 1996

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ..compromiser? No, I haven't had ten minutes yet, or even nine. And then they'll chuckle and say, well, no, go ahead and do it the way you have to do it, which they know I'm going to do anyway. There are not that many occasions when I feel that I've got to go to the mat on an issue, but it happens to be those occasions where you all have had so much pressure brought to bear on you that your life, you feel, hangs in the balance. But just think beyond that one instance to how you feel about it a year from then. You will survive. The world will go on. But let me tell you something that can happen with this rule change over all that you're making and could happen based on my seeing it as giving Lola whatever Lola wants. You get a Speaker who's not going to be in the Legislature next session and you let some big shot operation want something and promise that Speaker, I'll feather your nest with a good job when you leave here but you make sure this bill gets heard, you make sure these amendments are attached, you make sure these kind of amendments are not allowed to slow down what's happening. We have had people do things with reference to slot machines. People had family members who were in the business of providing slot machines and you can check their votes. You have people work for the telephone company and you can look at their votes. You have people in this Legislature right now who are dominated by whoever their employer is. So you get somebody sitting in that chair and they want a good job and you're going to tell me that they would not succumb and yet you can get their vote and control them for a meat loaf sandwich and a chicken dinner right now? I know what's in the Legislature, Senator Maurstad. I observe and I pay attention, and when the interests of those that I represent are going to be sacrificed or compromised by the body I'm not going to be collegial. There was somebody who said they would not participate willingly in the dismemberment or the destruction of the commonwealth. I'm not going to sit idly by in order to get along with you all and let you easily do those terrible things to the people I try to represent. That's why on the...every time we get to the Equal Opportunity Commission there're going to be some angry, bitter things said by me. And I am bitter that the Governor had no time to meet with people who live in Omaha talking about a serious problem but he can meet with people about a trail. He can meet with people about a trail. There's some people who want to build a trail so you can walk it or ride a bicycle and he can find time to meet with them, but people who are talking