

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 417

before we proceed, we have a couple of announcements to make. Senator Baker would like to announce the following guests are visiting the Legislature. From Trenton Elementary School, the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades, along with their teachers, Mrs. Cindy Huff, Ms. Kathy Upton, and one who I believe may have a special relationship with Senator Baker, Mrs. Pat Baker, his wife. If you would stand, we would like to recognize you and welcome you to the Nebraska Legislature. Also Senator Matzke would like to announce that his daughter is visiting from Denver, Doran Matzke. Doran, if you'd please rise, we would like to welcome you also. For discussion on the Beutler amendment to LB 417, Senator Chambers, you're recognized.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I agree with Senator Beutler's amendment. Senator Schimek was pointing out the relatively small number of persons that would be affected by this amendment that Senator Beutler is trying to remove from the bill and the relatively small percentage overall of positions affected by the green copy of the bill. To be quite frank about it, the number being as small as it is might be an argument against leaving the green copy in its present form. There will not be a substantial diminishing of the amount of paperwork or the number of people who are going to have to make the filings. But at the same time, it does give the impression that people who ought to be filing these statements will not do so. I think that the types of activities engaged in by the people who are to be exempted from filing these statements are the types of activities which could raise questions based on some decisions that they take in their official position. I want Senator Janssen to be aware that I do not make a determination of what I think policy ought to be based on the attitude of the media. There may be times when an attentive member of the media will call something to my attention, and if what is brought to my attention is a valid point that ought to be dealt with, I will certainly do that. Whatever the source of worthwhile information, I will honor that source and make use of the information based on the extent of its value. But if no person working in the media ever looked at any report filed, that would not be an argument against requiring the filing of the reports. So I am in support of Senator Beutler's amendment. While I have a few minutes left, I'd like to ask Senator Janssen a question, if he can take a