

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LB 267

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I rise in support of this amendment. I think it's getting a little blown out of proportion and I hope this doesn't come down to a debate of whether people should be allowed to have a glass of wine with dinner at an event at a university setting. I think our decision here needs to be what kind of processes are we going to require of a university or...when they have events involving alumni, when they have other events on their campuses. I was a member of the Alumni Council at Creighton for many years and during that period of time attended a lot of events. It's not unusual to have a dinner and a speaker for alumni with a cocktail hour ahead of time. It wouldn't be inappropriate to have that. I mean alcohol is legal. These are adults. You don't have underage people purchasing. It's a fairly strictly monitored, small event, and these happen with fair...much regularity, at least on the campus that I participated in as a member of the Alumni Council, and that's what this amendment is about, is whether or not they have to go through so many hoops for these types of events. We're not talking about student events here. We're talking about events that bring the alumni on campus, the business community on campus, and perhaps, as Senator Chambers said, the State Legislature or other people who may be invited to the campus, and it isn't unusual in our society to have a cash bar at these events. And so I hope that we don't get too far afield on this and make this into a whole lot more than it needs to be. This is just a simplification of the process for the universities in the state. Thank you.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Janssen.

SENATOR JANSSEN: Thank you, Mr. Speaker. I...listening to some of the debate and you have to realize that this still has to be sanctioned by that college or university. It is...it is entirely...entirely up to them how...what...what they want to do and I would hope that...I would hope that the governing bodies of these colleges and university would...would have the foresight to...not to allow that on some occasions as we're talking about here. It...initially, the bill was just to make it a little simpler for that caterer that they hire not to have to run and get a special permit every time they wanted to have a function. I have no idea how many of these receptions or