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LB 44

constitution and the statutes. Why are we going to say that a citizen, whose conduct violates a statute, is to pay a price? Why should we have the other provisions in LB 44 that Senator Brashear wants to put in? Because all they go to is the punishment of people who violate Nebraska statutes. So Senator Bromm would support a statute that is going to punish more harshly a citizen for violating the statutes, but he wants us to let the cops continue in their violation. Senator Bromm knows that the federal government has all of the machinery, money and personnel it needs to challenge a law such as this, if they dare. And if they win, we're not any worse off. But they won't win. And I've said this with reference to other issues that I had to wind up taking to court, and I won. But this is one where I don't have to take it to court,...

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: ...the federal government would have to do so. And you know why I say the federal government? Because no local law enforcement agency is going to do it. First of all, their county board or their city council wouldn't want to up the money, but beyond that the federal officials would tell them, don't do it, the risks are too great, we'll forego what little bit we're stealing from Nebraska, and we'll continue to get it from the 49 other states. We're not going to...don't rock the boat. And Senator Bromm knows what I'm saying is true, and so does anybody else connected with law enforcement or the enforcement of laws. This is wise, appropriate legislation, and it should be enacted now because the serious problem reared its head at this time.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Chambers. (Visitors introduced.) Discussion on the Chambers amendment to LB 44? Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Lieutenant Governor, members of the Legislature, I don't know about you, but I'm still a little confused by how this operates. I guess I'm initially disturbed by the prospect of money being distributed to a state law enforcement agency that doesn't come under the appropriations review of the Legislature. We don't do that very often and we don't do that with very large amounts of money, to the extent