

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

March 26, 2003 LB 117

SENATOR BROWN: Different letters after the "t."

SENATOR CHAMBERS: No, that's not the difference I'm looking for. I want...do you know the essential difference between a tomato and a terrorist, yes or no?

SENATOR BROWN: No.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. And, members of the Legislature, I don't believe people on the Investment Council do either. So why would a suggestion be made that money of this state is being invested in companies that have underwritten or had involvement with terrorists around the world? What in the world does the Nebraska Investment Council have to do with terrorism? Senator Bourne, I didn't do this. This was an article written about your State Treasurer, who felt that there should be a review of all the investments of the state. Now how many of you all jumped up right away and started writing letters to the Governor saying, by God, Nebraska should not be underwriting these terrorists and we want you to check every investment? You all didn't know that? You don't read the newspaper? Maybe somebody who can see terrorists in the investments of the state, or support of terrorism, can find people whose property has not been claimed. I take all this seriously. I've gotten along fairly well with the State Treasurer. In fact, she found some money that was coming to me that I had forgotten all about. This, to me, has nothing to do with an individual. It has to do with how the system is going to be administered, but it's going to be administered by a person who is in that office now. You all might hear me say America is a terrorist nation. You might hear me say Bush is the biggest terrorist on the face of the earth, which I believe both of those statements. Whenever you wage war which has not been declared and the war is in violation of international law and the UN charter, it's an illegal war. The killings are war crimes. But Bush and his ilk will not stand in the dock because the victor never is on trial. The victor is the prosecutor and the judge. The vanquished stand in the dock on trial. Now here's what I'm getting to with all of that. Expressing those opinions I am free to do, and nobody can stop me, but it becomes a different thing and rises to a