

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

February 23, 2005 LB 7

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you, Mr. President. Somebody said they're combing the hallways for Senator Combs. I had told Senator Pedersen that an objection I raised last time this bill came out had been removed when he put in a provision that would let everybody go out here begging. But as you listen to the discussion unfolding, there are serious concerns, and a weighing process has to be undertaken. Is the amount of money that people are talking about raising worth the possible damage of a societal nature of an ordinance being enacted by a city to allow and sanction this kind of activity? I would like to ask Senator Friend a question about the committee amendment before I proceed.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Friend, would you yield?

SENATOR FRIEND: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Friend, a traffic control device could be a stop sign, couldn't it?

SENATOR FRIEND: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So this could take place in small towns, because we're not limiting it to the electronic traffic control approach signals. Is that correct?

SENATOR FRIEND: Well, yes, that's correct. We...and that conversation, or a version of it, I guess, came up in committee. We talked specifically about that.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And there are high...thank you, that's all I will ask you. I just wanted clarification. There are highways that go through small towns. They're part of the state highway system. And believe it or not, some of them have stop signs on them. It's not where it's just a highway going all the way through; but a street is a part of that highway. And in Omaha, 30th Street is a part of the state highway system, and there are traffic control signals and devices all along 30th. So this could apply to small towns. And the dangers that have been discussed are real. It would probably be better to let people climb on top of billboards, or maybe build a house in a tree and