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LB 689A

SENATOR FRIEND: No. No, I'm not. (Laughter)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Okay. Sorry about that. Senator Chambers, it's your time now.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, friends all, Senator Friend would not have understood it anyway, so it doesn't make any difference. Some of his friends will break it down for him, his friends on the floor and those who watch our debates but are not on the floor. He and I go through these things all the time. I told you I'd make him take the bait and he's pop up. Didn't I tell you that? You all don't pay attention to me. I'm Stradivari. What do they call his violin? A Stradivarius. Play that violin. Can draw the string (makes grating noise), or bring forth those angelic, delicate notes which will cause people to say music is a concord of sweet sounds and they're coming from that violin being played by Senator Chambers, and the violin is his colleagues. But, members of the Legislature, when Senator...she's busy, but I'll say her name anyway. When Senator Combs said she crafts legislation for the majority, she goes contrary to what the constitution and the courts have said. Protective legislation and the constitution are to protect the minority against the majority, and if she'd look at the statistics she'd see that a majority of Nebraskans are in favor of legislation to protect the rights of gay and lesbian people. If she means what she says when she gets the statistics she'll support that bill, but she doesn't mean what she says. She's seen those statistics before, I'm sure, but maybe she didn't. I'm going to see that they get into her hands. And she's going to talk about people who are not discriminated against? That's like white people telling me, Ernie, black people don't have a hard time. I say, why not? Well, I don't have a hard time. I say, well, look, if I hit you on the head with a hammer, you're going to say ouch and not me because my head is not being hit with a hammer. Why does she think people who are gay will not come here and tell the Legislature that they're gay? They know what will happen to them. Everybody on this floor knows there's discrimination against gay people. I thought that attitude went out with the 1860s. And here Senator Combs is standing on the floor saying, I don't believe there's discrimination against gay people and that's not a problem and the Legislature should not