

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

April 7, 2005 LB 548

SENATOR CUDABACK: The amendment has been adopted. Before we move on to the next amendment, the cookies being passed out, in honor of Senator Foley's April 5 birthday, and Senator Erdman's birthday, and Jacob's birthday. So let's give them all a hand here. Happy Birthday. Mr. Clerk, amendment.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend the committee amendments. (FA150, Legislative Journal page 1136.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, to open.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, friends all, to demonstrate my mood this morning (singing), happy birthday, dear colleagues, happy birthday to you. Mr. President, members of the Legislature, this amendment that I'm offering is what I dubbed yesterday "the Chambers amendment." It won't take long to be brought up on your gadget, but I will tell you what it says: No entity receiving these funds shall discriminate against any person on the basis of sexual orientation. I want to give that a chance to soak in. I say again: "No recipient of funds shall discriminate against any person on the basis of sexual orientation." This amendment is appropriately placed here and I will tell you why. Public money is being sought and received by four entities: Creighton, Boys Town, the University of Nebraska, and the University Medical Center. This bill would put 2.5 million more dollars into the pot from which those four entities will draw. Not one of them should be in opposition to this amendment. In fact, there should be no opposition to this amendment at all. Public money should not subsidize any entity which is going to discriminate against people based on sexual orientation. This issue is not going away for the rest of the session. I have a bill languishing in the Judiciary Committee. That is the appropriate vehicle to discuss this issue, but it is not the only vehicle. Every time a bill comes out here which I think is appropriate for this amendment to be attached to, I'm going to attempt to attach it. Will there be repetition? Certainly. I listened this morning to the "Right Reverend Dr. Fischer" delivering the morning prayer, and she repeated the same types of things which those who preceded her have repeated. So, if in talking to the one who knows everything, the one who is omniscient, there is repetition, as though he forgot, she