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FLOOR DEBATE

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definition of a bar for purposes of LB 480, and if we can work that into the bill and also have some sort of a preemption clause, in terms of Senator Bourne's approach to a uniform statewide policy, I would be on-board with LB 480. The...this disparate way that we seem to be going about it in our state with a smoking ban that was enacted in Lincoln, with a proposal that was in Omaha, I heard from my tavern owners and my bar owners. And particularly those that Senator Bourne indicated, when you're within close geographic proximity to another jurisdiction, them...as my district goes to Harrison Street so it goes to another jurisdiction, it goes to Sarpy County, my district goes to Bellevue, and I had bar tavern owners, entrepreneurs, that were facing a real competitive disadvantage if the city of Omaha would have proceeded with the enactment of that smoking ban. Literally, some of these taverns are walking distance, are a block or two, from another tavern that would have allowed smoking. And that would have placed them tavern owners at a competitive disadvantage in the marketplace. And I don't think a hodgepodge approach is the way to go with this issue. I think we do need a statewide, uniform approach. I would support LB 480 if we could get the definitions in place that make sense, that are easily interpreted, and that we preempt local municipalities from coming up with a more narrowly defined indoor act. I appreciate Senator Bourne's efforts relative to the amendment. I doubt that I will support it. But I do support the underlying philosophical backdrop that we adopt a statewide uniform policy. Senator Cudaback, I would give the rest of my time to Senator Bourne.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Bourne, about two and a half.

SENATOR BOURNE: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Thank you, Senator Synowiecki. I appreciate the time. And again, this amendment is designed to encourage uniformity and consistency throughout the state. One thing I did want to say...and I appreciate Senator Synowiecki giving me his time so I could say this. I listened to Senator Chambers stand up and thump his chest and say, the disingenuousness of these people, and he pointed out Senator Baker and Senator Mines. And I'm sitting here and I'm thinking, you know, Senator Chambers has killed more bills in this Legislature than probably all the previous