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LB 211

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. You've heard the opening on (inaudible) Senator Landis to return LB 211 for a specific amendment. Open for discussion on that motion. Senator Chambers, followed by Senators Schimek and Louden. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, before I get mean later on perhaps, I have to discharge something that I agreed to do. There's a lady who works for the Historical Society. When this bill was before us before or a similar one, I had started by giving the first stanza of a national anthem for the morticians that I was writing, and I only had that one verse, and I wasn't sure whether I would complete it, but she took me quite seriously and said that since the Historical Society would be administering this bill, she wanted, and they wanted, a copy of that anthem. Well, at that time it wasn't completed. Thinking that the bill would never come before us again, I did complete it, but I didn't know I'd have to give a rendition, but that is something that I am obliged to do. Senator Landis must have known it because before he finished, he said, hmm, as though he's giving me the pitch. And this...I don't know if I have enough time to do it. How much time do I have, Mr. President?

SENATOR CUDABACK: About one minute has elapsed.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: One, so I...okay. "Morticians National Anthem," by Ernie Chambers, performed for the first time before the Nebraska Legislature on May 3, 2005, by the lyricist. Foreword: I was given a Commission / By a Mortician / To write a National Anthem / For those who do "plant them" / sung more or less to the tune of "These are a Few of my Favorite Things." I'm not going to try to sing it all, but if I did, it would start: Corpses, condolences, flowers, a coffin, / Black-curtained hearse that they carry you off in; / Tombstones and epitaphs with verbal slings, ? These are a few of our favorite things. / Churches and eulogies, pallbearers, mourners, / Weeping and wailing in all the church corners; / Choirs droning dirges that make grown men cry-- / These are the things that take place when folks die. / Fine embalming keeps the corpse fresh, / Add some makeup, too; / Then a good service