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May 12, 2005

LB 425, 426, 548

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Beutler. You've heard the opening on AM1507. Open for discussion. Senator Beutler, there are no lights on. Senator Beutler waives closing. The question before the body is adoption of AM1507, offered by Senator Beutler to LB 426. All in favor vote aye; opposed, nay. Have you all voted on the Beutler amendment who care to? Record please, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 31 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the adoption of Senator Beutler's amendment.

SENATOR CUDABACK: The Beutler amendment has been adopted. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would to amend, AM1574. (Legislative Journal page 1498.)

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers, to open on AM1574 to LB 426.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, if you pull this up on your gadget you will see the precise wording of this amendment. The issue surrounding this amendment was discussed the other day, and during that time I pointed out that I had gotten an amendment drafted to LB 548 which dealt with these four entities, as I call them. And I'm going to read the language of the amendment, then explain it further. "The University of Nebraska and postsecondary educational institutions having colleges of medicine in Nebraska and their affiliated research hospitals in Nebraska, as a condition of receiving any funds appropriated or transferred from the Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund, shall not discriminate against any person on the basis of sexual orientation." This amendment was adopted to LB 548, but LB 548 will not come before us because some other language that was needed had been put into the appropriations bill, LB 425. Because this provision had been adopted in a forthright, straight up vote, there are those on the floor who feel that it should continue to be a position that had been adopted by the Legislature and not erased as a result of the activities surrounding LB 548. This is a rewrite of the amendment that I had gotten adopted to LB 548. That