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

May 12, 2005 LB 427

termination? Now, some of the people I've hired, some of the people I've terminated, I have no idea whether they were straight, whether they were homosexual, whatever that might be, I never have terminated anyone because of sexual orientation. I never ask and I don't really want to know. so that's always been my policy, but, still, there is always that concern, and I hear this from many of my peers who are also in business for themselves, is always that concern. Now, this is pertaining to the state of Nebraska. I will not vote for this amendment, and I told Senator Landis that I would not. also told Senator Chambers that I would not vote for his amendment. I will vote for the bill if it's adopted. But I do feel, and I also read the article that Senator Beutler passed out on the "Study finds different sexual response in the brain." I do know of two individuals personally who came out of the homosexual lifestyle. I don't know what was in their brain, but they were certainly homosexual. Didn't know it at the time. They told me later. So I don't know whether it's immutable or not, but I do feel that even the federal government does not have, I don't believe, a clause on sexual orientation. antidiscrimination clauses, but not based on sexual orientation. And so, for the state of Nebraska to go there at this point in time, I'm not ready to do that. Like I said, the employees that I've had, I really don't know whether they were, whether they weren't, but it always...

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR JENSEN: ...is concerning that any time you do this there is that additional risk of a lawsuit of somebody saying, well, you fired me because; no, I didn't. But that's always there. And so I, at this present time, are not ready to adopt this language. That's where I am. I'll return the rest of my time back to the Chair. Thank you.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Jensen. Senator Foley, followed by Senator Kruse.

SENATOR FOLEY: Thank you, Mr. President, members. Well, Senator Chambers is going to go where he always goes when he runs out of argument. He's going to pull out the Catholic