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us gently in that direction. That's what my amendment is designed to do here. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. (Visitors introduced.) On with discussion of the Chambers amendment. Senator Chambers, followed by Senator Landis.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, sometimes the flawed ethics of the marketplace, which exist because the idea of the marketplace is to make as much money as possible, or all the traffic will bear. Sometimes that flawed ethical standard can be a guidance to those who ought to be establishing the policies of and for the state. In the realm of the larger businesses, discrimination based on sexual orientation is verboten. I had mentioned last week about a bill before a legislature--it may have been Washington State--designed to prohibit discrimination in employment based on sexual orientation. Microsoft, as a company, which had always supported such legislation, backed off. The theory or the statement given as to why Microsoft behaved in this fashion was supposedly based on a threat by a fundamentalist preacher to lead a boycott of Microsoft products. Employees and others condemned Microsoft's craven collapsing on this issue. Microsoft, upon further review and consideration, switched and went back to its original principled position, and supported the legislation. I don't know whether it will have a chance to be reconsidered out there or not, but I mention that to show that by putting this requirement on those companies that are receiving benefits and incentives under this law, should be prohibited from discriminating against any residents, based on sexual orientation. This is not an amendment that affects all businesses in this state. It affects those who will gain benefits from taxpayers, in order to facilitate their making a greater profit. There were statistics handed around to all of the members showing that a majority of Nebraskans are opposed to discrimination based on sexual orientation. Even at the time they were voting imprudently for that antigay and lesbian provision in the Nebraska Constitution, they simultaneously went on record as being opposed to discrimination against gay and lesbian people. A judge, in striking that down, that constitutional provision, said it demonstrated an animus, that