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LB 645

SENATOR CUDABACK: Back to discussion of the committee amendments, as stated by the Clerk. Open for discussion. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President, there will be two other...one other vote, in addition to this: the committee amendment, which will, I'm sure, be adopted by my craven colleagues; then a vote to advance the bill, which should fail. That's what I'm hoping for. Twenty-one votes were cast in opposition to my motion to strike Section 5 from this amendment. Section 5, to repeat it one more time, prohibits public entities from being involved in the activity that the bill discusses, for a two-year period, which has been labeled a moratorium. I would hope that the bill receives no more than the 21 votes which were cast in opposition to my amendment. This is not a good bill, but if it should happen to move...I thought we wouldn't have our lobbyist friends with us here today. Senator Schimek made it clear that my comments did not relate to the Nebraska Legislature, where people will be bought out. And I agree with her. But Senator Schimek, you know why they don't have to offer money to bribe our colleagues? Because the going price is a meat loaf sandwich and a chicken dinner. You don't get down to the cash. But I do not believe--and I'm speaking in all sincerity now--that any senator would sell out for a meat loaf sandwich and a chicken dinner. I do not believe that. However, the lobbyists are cagey. One which would not dare walk up to a senator and say, I will give you 35 cents if you vote a certain way, calculating what a Nebraska senator would sell out for, but would feel that if you give that meat loaf sandwich and a chicken dinner, the senator feels kind of a bonding and a sense of obligation. Not as a quid pro quo, not as one yielding to a bribe, but one who is responding to what is perceived as a kindness, a gesture of generosity. But from what I've heard about that food that you all have been swilling, the attempt was either to kill all of you, or to see how strong your stomachs were. And since I see all of you here, and some of you seeming to have flourished more than before eating, I'd say that they miscalculated, as far as harming you with it. The other day I had talked about how a lobbyist snatched the food out of the mouths of those who would benefit at the City Mission. But as Paul Harvey has done in the