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

March 13, 2006 LB 786

have an interest in the bill, and people other than just myself. I'm also aware, after the number of years I've been here, that there's a great amount of skepticism, doubt, and actually distrust of amendments that I offer. So I have never drafted a lengthy amendment which consisted of numerous parts, as this would be if I would put all these provisions into one amendment and offer it. I don't want anybody to get the idea that I'm trying to pull a fast one. Every one of these amendments I'm prepared to explain why I think it ought to be adopted. believe I could persuade the body to adopt all of them, with the possible exception of my excluding the Omaha city councilpersons from being subject to recall, and the members of the school board in Omaha being excluded from recall. But those are some of the things that I have that I intend to present. If I put those things in a very lengthy amendment, the first thing my skeptical, suspicious colleagues would say, Ernie wanted to trick us by putting a lot of amendments in front that we can accept, a lot of amendments behind that we could accept, but right in the middle is this bombshell that he knew we wouldn't accept if he offered it, so he buried it in this lengthy amendment consisting of numerous parts. So I've broken what I'm offering down into discrete elements, and I'm prepared to deal with each one of them. As you all may be aware, time being utilized to craft quality legislation is the best use of time that can be made, in my opinion. I'm not in a hurry. I said I'm going to work this morning with a slow hand. That's what I said, if you check the transcript. But there are people who did not pay attention. I said I'm the man that people listen to, but whom the listeners do not hear. I can repeat something 10 times, and only when I repeat it the 10th time does somebody pay attention and they say, oh yeah, that makes sense. But they miss all those other nine steps. So I know what it takes to function effectively on this floor, for me. There are others who are now saying and suggesting that perhaps all of these other amendments should be consolidated and offered as one. But I'm not going to do that just yet, because there are parts of it that I'm sure some people in the body will disagree with. So I'm not going to do this is a heat and a rush. There are some times, brothers and sisters, when all that people ought to do is take their time, pay attention to what they're doing, savor the moment. Savor that instance, and get the most out of it that