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illegal in the state, I don't think the state, then, should put a protective cloak around it and give what amounts to a \$20 licensing fee because the officers don't have the time to keep going back time and again to these kind of operations when they know that there is not going to be a penalty serious enough to discourage it. I move for the adoption of the amended Committee amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Stoney.

SENATOR STONEY: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, you may not know this but this bill originally was drafted at my suggestion and it ended up, after Senator Chambers colorful dissertation, his bill but I would like to say that the bill as amended I feel is a much better bill. The bill that I had drafted pertained specifically to the sport of cockfighting. Senator Chambers has now had added other animals, bears, bulls, dogs, any animals that people would cause to fight one another to death. The intent, when I introduced this bill, was to provide for a stricter fine and penalty for this activity. At the present time, our statutes provide for a \$20 fine, and if an individual when convicted is charged with cruelty to animals, there is a possibility that he may be fined an additional \$100. This bill, as amended, would provide for a fine on the initial conviction of \$500 to a maximum of \$1,000. On subsequent charges and convictions, the individual would be subject to a \$1,000 fine, or a maximum of \$1500 or 30 days in jail or both. The bill, I don't believe Senator Chambers mentioned, has the support of the Sarpy County Sheriffs Department as well as the Nebraska Humane Society and the Humane Society of the United States and I would certainly urge you to support the amendment.

PRESIDENT: Senator Orval Keyes of Sarpy County.

SENATOR KEYES: Mr. Speaker, I seem to be the one in whose district cockfighting was caught because cockfighting does go on across the state. I, personally, know some of these people that own roosters, cocks, and fight them. I went to a cockfight about 40 years ago in Oklahoma and, Senator Chambers, you described the cockfight exactly right. Now where have you got your experience because no man could describe a cockfight such as Ernie Chambers has without being to one. I wonder, Senator Chambers, if in this bill in a little town down in southeast Nebraska, in Senator Wiltse's District, I went to a hound chasing a coon across a lake. Now they were betting on that, too, and had that hound ever caught that coon, there would have been a fight. Now I wonder if this is going to have anything to do with fighting, with animals between the different species, the hound and the coon, and so forth, because many of us raise dogs to hunt coyotes and so forth, and if this is going to stop us from raising dogs to hunt coyotes, then I strictly am against