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doing this. This amendment, and it's not printed but it might be on your little gadgets shortly...but Senator Jensen is one who I think will be interested in this...in line 7 of Senator Jensen's amendment, that white copy, you have this language: "in law, marriage is considered a civil contract." What the Supreme Court has ruled...and I had handed this out the other day that marriage is not a contract. In the case of Edmunds v. Edwards, 205 Neb. 255, the annotation says this under section 42-101 which talks about marriage being a civil contract. The annotation says the following: "Although this section denotes marriage as a civil contract, persons entering into matrimony establish a social status, not a contractual relationship." What I am doing with my amendment is using language that comes from court decisions and it also has language that will be found in that Defense of Marriage Act. Rather than saying marriage is considered a civil contract, it would say, "marriage is a legal union." That's what marriage is. Marriage is not a contract. Even if it were done pursuant to a contract, the marriage itself is not a contract. This is very poor language. Marriage is a union between two people. Based on the language that Senator Jensen offered by way of amendment, it is a union between one man and one woman. By putting the word "legal", it makes it clear that it has to comply with all the requirements of the law. I would deal with the term "contract" in other parts of the bill, and you'd begin to see that it makes more sense and it's better to do that so that there will not be confusion or a misunderstanding about what we're discussing. Senator Jensen, I'd like to ask you a question.

SENATOR WILL: Senator Jensen, would you yield?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Jensen, do you see that the term "a legal union" does not take anything away from what a marriage actually is under the law? Well, let me ask...

SENATOR JENSEN: Mr. President, members of the body, I do feel that the language that we have there is perfectly clear. I think that marriage is a civil contract.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Even though the Supreme Court said it's not?