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FLOOR DEBATE

April 4, 2001 LB 242

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: The amendment is withdrawn. Debate on the advancement of LB 242? Senator Schimek.

SENATOR SCHIMEK: Yes, thank you, Mr. President and members. I will be brief. I am a cosigner on this bill. This bill has been in Government Committee I think four different times. It's gotten out on occasion but it's never gone anywhere. I think this bill is homeless, I think it needs a place to live, I think it should be part of our statutes, and I hope that you will all be supportive in advancing this to Select File. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Thank you, Senator Schimek. Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: Mr. President, Senator Chambers would move to amend the bill. (FA165, Legislative Journal page 1354.)

PRESIDENT MAURSTAD: Senator Chambers, you're recognized to open.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you. Mr. President and members of the Legislature, what I am amending is the Raikes amendment which is now a part of the bill, in order to help call your attention to where you should look. Senator Raikes handed out a copy of his amendment, and if you turn to page 2 of that amendment, in line 14, after the word "board", after the semicolon, I would insert "University of Nebraska at Lincoln Head Football Coach". Don't laugh, because I have a reason for this. I have been concerned for decades literally about what I call the exploitation of football players. They're called student athletes. The words are in the wrong order. They are athletes who are put in the role of students but, in reality, they are unpaid employees of the university. They are like serfs; they are like indentured servants. The so-called athletic scholarship they're given has nothing to do with ath...with scholarship. They are at that university primarily as athletes. The National Collegiate Asso...Athletic Association spends the bulk of its time trying to rein in universities which are committing violations of MCAA rules. Now, the rule book of the NCAA is thicker than the Bible and more complex than the Internal Revenue Code because they know how tricky coaches, school administrators, athletic directors are at finding a way