

of death and implementing the Death Penalty. At the same time, common sense tells me, that the vast bulk of the people in America today, feel the Death Penalty is necessary. Our existing Penal system has not reached the point in sophistication or success where the Death Penalty can be abandoned and finally from a humane standpoint, it would seem more humane to eliminate a person now, rather than have them live about 50 or 60 years of a life imprisonment, at a cost to the State of a half a million, or a million dollars, and so simply put there is no doubt that Nebraska and many many other Sates are going to pass some form of a Death Penalty. My only contention is, as long as we are going to pass a Death Penalty, let us actually make it exactly that, a Death Penalty. My Amendments do that, by eliminating the other options and the opportunity for Attorneys or other people to use the system against itself, and ultimately end up destroying the very concept of a Death Penalty. As I say, the way this Bill is set up now, it is almost an absolute guarantee, that there will be no Death Penalty. We would be better off, not passing any law, rather than to pass a law, that says its a Death Penalty but is exactly the opposite. As to Constitutionality, I think the Amendments I propose, are probably from a Constitutional standpoint, far stronger than the existing Bill, because there is no capriciousness, there is no guess work, there is no discrimination, as my Amendments set up the Bill. It is quite certain that if a person is convicted, they are executed whether they are multi-billionaires or whether they are the poorest person. Whether they have the best Attorney in the world, or the worst Attorney in the world. Factors which under the existing Bill, as it's proposed, would insure that some people would be executed and some people wouldn't and so I get back to the point, the Amendments are not made to injure the Bill in any way. They are made to strengthen it and make it a true Death Penalty Bill. Without the Amendments, the Bill is an anti-Death Penalty Bill.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers, then Senator Rasmussen.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. President and members of the Legislature. I know now whats going to happen with this Bill. I know its going to be advanced, I know its going to be passed and I know tne Governors going to sign it, but so that the record will be clear on where I stand. I'm going to make an attempt to appeal to your intelligence this morning, not to your emotions, but I am going to say that there are a number of you who are running for re-election next year, and this is a vehicle by which you can impress your constituents in the same way you vote against the Equal Rights Amendment, impress some of your constituents. In the same way that your votes against feeding hungry children will impress certain of your constituents. So when you take this series of votes, it indicates that the Legislature on the whole, is a relatively hard hearted unfeeling, unsensitive body of men, who are more interested in staying in office, in perpetuity, rather than performing a worth while function to the citizenry of this State. We should be examples of an enlightened, forward moving, civilizing influence, but that is not going to occur, and I think it's ironic that a man who's ancestors were slaves should have to make this kind of appeal. Some of you are going to be offended at what I say, I'm offended at what some of you have done. I'm offended at some of the games that have been played with me, this term. I'm offended at the games that have been played against Black people and poor people, Chicanos, and Indians. I know that what I'm saying is not going to make any difference on this Bill, but