

if we can shut off some of this, it certainly is the thing to do. We need to do it in our state. Thank you.

PRESIDENT: The Chair has a list of members here that I assume wish to speak on this amendment. Beginning with Senator Hefner, then Chambers, Vickers, Haberman, Marsh and Beutler. Senator Hefner, do you wish to speak at this time?

SENATOR HEFNER: Mr. President and members of the body, I rise to support this amendment. Let me just go back a little. Under the present law, the theft or destruction of library materials is a Class 2 misdemeanor. And so what we are doing, we are changing that. We are changing that to an infraction and that has a lot less penalty. The penalties for an infraction are as follows. For the first offense a fine of not more than \$100. For a second offense within a two-year period, a fine not less than \$100 and not more than \$300. And for a third offense within a two-year period, a fine not less than \$200 or more than \$500. Senator Lundy explained the amendment very well and I just feel that our librarians and our libraries in Nebraska need a little more protection because every time that we lose some library material it costs people money, it costs citizens in our state more money. Those libraries that are supported by taxes, it costs the taxpayers more money. And so I would just urge you to support this amendment that we have before the body right now.

PRESIDENT: Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, being a state senator here is difficult, hard, arduous work. That is being redundant but it is on purpose because what I say becomes redundant in dealing with these poorly drafted bills. First of all...and I wish you would look at the amendments on page 1217 which were heralded by Senator Marsh. Now in line 4...well, let's start at line 2. With the intention of depriving the library of ownership or possession, with the intent to deprive the library of possession. When I check out a book, my intent is to deprive the library of possession. They say ownership or possession. There is nothing illegal about me intending to deprive the library of possession because that is my intent when I check out the book. That is what these wise drafters have made a crime now, the purpose in checking it out. They have not defined "authority". They have not defined what it