

PRESIDENT: Senator Pappas, did you wish to speak on this amendment? Senator Pappas. I am recognizing now people who lights were not turned off from the last debate. Senator Pappas.

SENATOR PAPPAS: Mr. President and colleagues, I rise, I really haven't spoken on the bill yet and I rise especially to favor the amendment, but before we even go that far, I would like to remind some people in here that three years ago, the last time we spent this much time on one particular piece of legislation, it was called the "license plate" bill, and we spent hours and days and hours and days on something that basically wound up being meaningless. We started with different ideas and different amendments and finally we got this plain license plate that everybody complained about for a long time. It didn't really affect anything and it didn't do anything. Well, the bill as it is now basically is close to that particular area but I think the big key we should focus on is that there is a lot of people in here, and one of these days Senator Nichol is going to come up and give us the same speech, there is a lot of people in here that have priority bills that they are very interested in to get passing and this bill is either going to pass or fail on its own merits no matter how many more amendments we either put on or off it because none of the amendments are going to change anybody's minds to go with the bill or against the bill. But if we keep wasting this large amount of time, there is a good chance we won't get to Senator Chambers' death penalty bill. We may not have time to fully debate that and pass that, or some other bills, key bills in this body that everybody is very interested in, that the people in Nebraska are interested in. Now we can keep debating this for another two or three hours and go through the same process a week from now or we can finally, hopefully, maybe a few people will talk less, possibly withdraw some motions, and let the bill rise or fail on its own merits and get on with some other good pieces of legislation. And if we don't, in a day or two I think Senator Nichol is going to stand up and basically tell us the same thing. We are going to run out of time. Next week we start on revenue bills and the following week appropriation bills, and we are at the place that the session will almost be over. Now if we want to spend this much time on a piece of legislation that is watered down already, we can, but I would urge this body to try to expedite things, go a little faster, and let it rise or fail