

take an oath that anything they put in the paper is true. So you have to leave so much up to the people who are running the newspapers or the broadcast media. What I think ought to happen in order that we can discuss this whole area in a way that it hasn't been discussed in years in this Legislature is to bring this bill out of committee. It should be brought before us and we should discuss it, not only to make the media aware of what their responsibilities are through the discussion itself, if not from the content of the discussion, but to remind us and the public what freedom of the press does entail and what it does not entail. So I'm going to support the motion to bring this bill out of committee.

PRESIDENT: Thank you, Senator. The Chair recognizes Senator Higgins and then I have no other lights other than for Senator DeCamp.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I would like to ask Senator DeCamp a couple of questions about his bill. Senator, I'm just reading from the summary, the committee statement, would provide procedures for obtaining information claimed to be privileged under the Nebraska Free Flow of Information Act, Sections 20-144-147. "The Free Flow of Information Act provides a broad and apparently absolute privilege to new media personnel concerning their sources. 231 would allow a person seeking the privileged information to apply to the court in which the action is taking place for the order divesting the person of the privilege and ordering the person to disclose his or her source of information. It would provide procedures for application and matters to be considered by the court in deciding whether to grant or deny the application." Would you explain that with an example or just...

SENATOR DECAMP: Yes, certainly.

SENATOR HIGGINS: ...it isn't going to apply across the board that you're going to do away with the right of a reporter to go and get information and not reveal their source.

SENATOR DECAMP: Absolutely not. In fact, it would apply in probably less than one-tenth or one-one hundredth of 1 percent of the cases, but when it does apply it is critical it apply and that is what the Constitution of the