

SENATOR PETERSON: I move the bill.

PRESIDENT: Senator Peterson moves that the bill be readvanced from Select File. All those in favor say aye. Opposed no. The motion carried. The bill is readvanced. LB 406.

CLERK: Mr. President, on 406, I have a motion from Senators Hoagland, Chizek, and Withem to return the bill for a specific amendment. (Refer to amendment on page 2140 of the Legislative Journal.)

PRESIDENT: Senator Hoagland, are you handling this. You are recognized.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Mr. President and colleagues, the amendment has been printed and is in your Final Reading bill book. It is amendment 1311 and the amendment is in response to an Attorney General's Opinion that we requested and received after this look-alike drug bill had been advanced to Final Reading. The Attorney General's Opinion is on page 1103 of the Legislative Journal. We have spent a great deal of time this session already debating the look-alike drug problem and I think the four of us who are co-sponsoring this bill are very concerned with the problem that is in high schools throughout the state, Omaha in particular, and certain high schools in Omaha in particular. During the floor debate, there were questions raised about the constitutionality of the imitation controlled substances bill and the look-alike amendment to that in particular, and as a result of those questions, we obtained an Attorney General's Opinion which we received some weeks ago. All right, now since then we have taken the bill through several additional drafts and have now presented this draft as a rewrite of the bill that again is in white copy form in the Final Reading bill book. Now let me just make a brief comment about this issue. This is a difficult issue. It is a difficult issue for two reasons. Number one, there is a lot of damage, a lot of injury being done out there, particularly in the high schools of our state by the people who are manufacturing and peddling these look-alike drugs. At the public hearing, we had a number of people who spoke in favor of the bill. We had a number of law enforcement officers that asked for additional authority that they need in order to put a cap on this problem. The other side of the coin is that many of these look-alike drugs are in and