

of two sections. The first section, by amending current Section 28-431 of the Nebraska statutes, expands those items that can be seized during searches with or without warrants to include, not just drugs that are found in a raid, for instance, on a seller of drugs, but also money and other items of value that are found in the vicinity of the drugs that are presumed to be the proceeds of drug traffic and, therefore, subject to forfeiture. Now Section 2 of the bill sets up a system whereby the proceeds of those drug raids, once they are determined by the court to be proceeds of a drug seizure, are distributed, as I indicated, 50 percent into the lands fund, into the educational lands fund and 50 percent to individual county drug law enforcement fund boards to be distributed and to be used for law enforcement purposes. Now the committee adopted a number of technical amendments, the most important of which is to limit the number of things and the circumstances under which property found in the vicinity of the drugs can be seized in order to further protect the rights of those individuals owning that property. The second thing the committee did was rather than having the funds distributed through the county law enforcement funds, set up a system whereby the funds would be distributed through the Crime Commission on a statewide basis rather than by a local county board in the county in which the drugs were seized. So that, Mr. Speaker, basically is the purpose of this relatively complicated bill and the amendments recommended by the committee.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Just a minute, Senator Pirsch. I realize you have amendments, but, Senator Chambers, would you advise the body what you intend to do here, please.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Yes. Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, if you look at the committee amendments, you will see there are six propositions. I am asking that the question be divided so that we take each one separately and that will make clear, not only the committee amendments, but what it is we are dealing with in the bill as a whole because there are a number of ideas, and I think they are important, that ought to be dealt with. We can get a division of the question but I want you to understand why it is that I am seeking it. So the division I am talking about relates to the committee amendments as they are printed in the green book. There are six of them and each one will be taken in its turn.