

an amendment that you had on this bill from last year.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator John DeCamp.

SENATOR DEKAMP: Mr. President, I'm really not prepared but it is a real simple amendment and I think you should adopt it. Let me explain what it is. In the current accountability law there is a provision that says no candidate...no, heck, it says more than that. It says, nobody is supposed to say anything that is not the truth. Okay? In other words, you are not supposed to be able to tell a lie or a fib. The Accountability Commission is the judge of who is telling a fib apparently and anybody can file a complaint against anybody else claiming they didn't tell the truth. Now, in my particular case, my opponent filed, I think, 40 or 50 claims against me on bills I sponsored from multibank to you name it saying I didn't tell the truth about those bills. Well, the statements I made in the bills were exactly the ones I made on the floor which were the truth and, of course, ultimately the case went to the courts. I spent \$29,000 and the court threw all the stuff out, first of all saying essentially that there was no proof that I didn't tell the truth, that it was verifiable, but more important than that they hinted that the whole thing may reek of constitutionality on first amendment grounds. I am absolutely convinced that this is a chilling thing on any campaign or any candidate, number one. Number two, I am convinced it is unconstitutional. I have thought of different complaints somebody could file at which supposedly the Accountability Commission is to judge who is telling the truth. I will use a couple of examples. In the last election a guy named, let's see, Ronald Reagan ran against another one named something Mondale, Fritz Mondale. Now, they were running in Nebraska...I had the complaints all ready to file, I didn't file them, but my point is, now listen, here are some of the statements. You remember them. Fritz Mondale said Ronald Reagan has a secret plan to increase taxes after he is elected but he is not telling you. Okay, Ronald Reagan said, I have no secret plans to increase taxes. Ronald could have filed a complaint saying Fritz is lying and Fritz could have filed a complaint saying Ronald is not telling the truth because he really has a secret plan. And you can go on and on from there. Somebody says, I believe this bill will do great harm to the State of Nebraska because it will blah, blah, blah, and the other one says, the bill won't do that at all. Let's use some local