

February 12, 1986 LB 772

Chambers amendment. If you wish to cease debate, please record your vote aye or nay. The Chair will allow 30 seconds for the recording of your vote. The motion is to cease debate on the Chambers amendment. Have you all voted? Record the vote.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The motion carries and the Chair recognizes Senator Chambers to close.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, this bill ought to be scrapped in its entirety and a motion should be coming up soon to attempt to accomplish that. But in the meantime, as I indicated, I wanted to have something in the record on each one of these sections specifically identified and directly discussed. Senator Beutler, one of the co-sponsors of this bill, has indicated, and correctly, that this section is superfluous. The only reason it is there is to make some groups feel that the bill does not apply to them as long as they behave in a lawful fashion. Well, as long as people behave in a lawful fashion, it doesn't apply to anybody. And before these reporters get some misconceptions, as reporters tend to do when they tend not to listen carefully, my defense is not of hate groups. I mentioned over and over and over that this bill does not in any way identify or circumscribe any of those groups called hate groups. I mention the example of the farmers in the coffee shop. I mention the example of a rally in opposition to farm foreclosures. Now, if those are the hate groups, then let the reporter identify what I said and attach his impression that these are hate groups to it but don't write that I am saying these hate groups are being denied this right or that right. I told you that under the guise of dealing with the kind of groups that Senator Chizek talked about, you are infringing on the rights of all the citizens of this state. And the rights that I mentioned as being important are the rights to free speech, assembly, association and thought, that this is not only a bill designed to control what people can say, with whom they can assemble and associate, but also what they can think. Contrary to what Senator Beutler said about my skimming over the issue of intent, I have belabored that point to establish that intent is the only thing that this bill makes a crime. Intent is the only thing that makes it a crime. Why does he think I called it a mind-reading bill if I am

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