

February 12, 1986 LB 772

PRESIDENT: One minute.

SENATOR DECAMP: ...and when it is in the mind of the beholder and it is criminal, you have got one and one-half million interpretations in this state as to what is illegal or legal, or what is intended. And I am going to use a quick, simple example. And I just remembered it because I looked at Arlene. A few minutes ago my good friend, Arlene, stood up, and, Arlene, take this in the spirit in which it is offered, and said...I forget what the issue was even, and she said...Initiative 300, it was, yes. She said, I am warning you, she said, you watch out, or words to that effect. Do you remember, Arlene? She is shaking her head, yes. You watch out what will happen out there if you do this or that. In other words, if...right? Now, Arlene, what did you really mean? What was really your intent? Were you threatening us? Were you giving us a terroristic threat? Why wouldn't that same conduct, that same attitude, that same words be criminal conduct...

PRESIDENT: Your time is expiring.

SENATOR DECAMP: ...be criminal conduct in a little different atmosphere? Maybe a hot group and somebody standing up and saying, I am warning you. See what I am saying? That is what you are playing with when you play with these kind of bills where you just make blanket things illegal. I realize I can't stop the bill, probably, and I will quit talking today. But I will do this, I am going to try to work out some amendments to make it more palatable, although I think you ought to stop the bill completely.

PRESIDENT: Senator Schmit.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Mr. President and members of the body, I just want to say a few things relative to the bill and I have been one of those individuals who have been listening to the debate on both sides. I know that Senator Chizek responded to some legitimate concerns when he began to hold those hearings across the state and there were many people who attended those hearings who expressed some very legitimate concerns about the trend that was taking place in the state today relative to something which we all abhor and that is the preaching of hate, the teaching of hate and the possible teaching of violence and overthrow of responsible