

approach me then and suggest that we talk about some possible amendments and unfortunately I had to be out of town over the weekend and we were on break on Friday and Monday, but we didn't have time to talk about it privately. However, we did not get to the bill on Thursday afternoon and I'm quite surprised that these amendments, I've just seen a copy and as you know, I'm not an attorney, but it appears that what we're doing is making a relatively major change in the existing Political Subdivisions Tort Claim Act and I honestly don't know what the ramifications are of this and so I'm going to be opposing this out of ignorance, if you will, and I don't mean to use that word, but I honestly don't know what the ramifications are. I'm not sure any of us do at this point, but I would be a little skeptical at this point.

SENATOR LAMB: The Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman and members of the Legislature, I would like to ask Senator Hoagland a question or two about his amendment, if I may. First of all, Senator Hoagland, as briefly as you can, would you state what your amendment is?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: It allows either party to request a jury trial in a case against a political subdivision.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Hoagland, if somebody is suing me, would a jury trial be available in that suit?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Unless both parties waived it.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Is the concept of a jury trial in a case where you're dealing with negligence foreign to the concept of American jurisprudence?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Absolutely not.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Thank you very much. Senator Hannibal, I'd like to ask you a question or two, if you would yield.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Certainly, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Hannibal, are you familiar with the concept of a jury in a trial?