

\$1.285 million that was handed down in Omaha about a year and a half ago. This is the first million dollar verdict a jury has ever returned in an injury case in the State of Nebraska. On the other hand, if you look at what the judges have done in political subdivision tort claim trials, you know that the City of Omaha got hit for a \$5 million verdict about three years that was reversed only on a 4-3 vote in the Supreme Court and Sarpy County got hit for a \$3.6 million verdict about two years ago that was affirmed by the Supreme Court. The kind of verdicts judges are bringing in are much greater than the kind of verdicts juries bring in. Because of that fact the State of Iowa and the State of Kansas have gone to their legislatures asking for jury trials in suits against political subdivisions. Now it would be a fair system and it would be a system that would work well and I imagine I will be in a position of saying I told you so in five or ten years from now when Jerry Prazan and his army of lobbyists that have worked this bill so thoroughly come in and ask for that change. I'd like us to forestall that and to adopt this change now for the same reasons it was adopted in Iowa and Kansas. Thank you.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Hannibal, for what purpose do you rise?

SENATOR HANNIBAL: A point of clarification, Mr. Chairman.

SENATOR LAMB: State your point.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: As you, I think, have noticed my light was on, but I think I can handle this rather than talking at the closing by asking Senator Hoagland a point of clarification on his motion, if he'd yield.

SENATOR LAMB: Senator Hoagland, would you respond?

SENATOR HOAGLAND: Sure.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: Without a debate, just a point of clarification, because I do understand he has closed, is this amendment a change in present law, Senator Hoagland?

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, Mr. Chairman.

SENATOR HANNIBAL: I'll withdraw the question, Mr. Chairman.