

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR HOHENSTEIN: I'm asking you to adopt this amendment, to strike this language because if we do not do this, we will have managed our way around the federal law and managed our way into a federal court case which we will lose. The intended consequences of what you, of what Senator Ashford has done will not be the ultimate affect. That's not going to happen. And I stand today because I have been to those hills and highways and main streets, and those are my Indians. And they have an opportunity here that we ought not deprive them of. You can give them that opportunity, you can give them that right without violating any law by adopting this amendment.

SPEAKER BAACK: Thank you, Senator Hohenstein. Senator Schellpeper.

SENATOR SCHELLPEPER: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. Once again, I rise to support the Hohenstein amendment. This bill, in original form, is only designed basically to state who shall negotiate with the Indian tribes. We keep forgetting about all these, what we think the bill is actually trying to do. Senator Chambers makes some comments about that there's some language in the bill that is not...or, that he doesn't like. It's only following federal law. It's taken right out of the federal law. We're not doing anything different than what's in the federal law. He states that it, it should be conducted fairly. He wants that taken out, and honestly. Would he want it done "unhonestly", or unfairly? Dishonestly. But I guess it's just...we're, once again, we're only following federal law. If we don't pass this bill, Nebraska will be just like Kansas, we will have no one to negotiate. The Legislature can't negotiate. There's no way that 49 people are going to negotiate with a, a tribe. It just has to be done. Senator Ashford made the comment that this, that his language in his amendment, that it came from the Revenue Department. It didn't come from the Revenue Department. They just looked at it and they said they were neutral on it. They didn't have any feel on the amendment one way or the other. But they said that they could live with it if that's what the Legislature wanted, but they would sooner not have it. We argued against it on, on General File, and we finally decided well, if that's what some people...if that's what the body wants to do, then let's just put it in there. But it's really not needed 'cause all it's doing is getting us into