

and allow those people because there is a lengthy list here, and I don't want to get us too confused. Senator Hall, are you going to be addressing the Wickersham amendment? Okay. Senator Warner has indicated to me already he will not be. Senator Will, are you going to address the Wickersham amendment? Senator Fisher on the Wickersham amendment? Senator Moore on the Wickersham amendment? Senator Pirsch on the Wickersham amendment? Senator Pedersen on the Wickersham amendment? It sounds like it is agreed to, Bob. Senator Ashford on the Wickersham amendment? You will be? Senator Chambers, are you going to be addressing the Wickersham amendment? Okay, so we will recognize Senator Ashford and then Senator Chambers.

SENATOR ASHFORD: Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. I am not going to address the substance of it. I am just going to suggest that I don't know, Senator Wickersham, did this amendment have a hearing of any kind or is this...? What I would suggest is that the Omaha sales tax measure has been out here for two years now, and I would ask the body that we be allowed to have an up or down vote on it. I think that then we can move on to other issues, but, obviously, this is an issue of concern, at least, to the citizens of Omaha, and to many across the state, and I understand Senator Wickersham's opposition to the Omaha sales tax initiative. He has expressed that opposition to me on a couple of occasions, and I respect his opposi...certainly his right to be opposed. And I, though, would ask the body to please vote down the Wickersham amendment so that we can get an up or down vote on the Omaha initiative, and either move it ahead or go on with other business of the session. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Thank you, Senator Ashford. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, there is no way we are just going to pass this off and go on to other business unless Senator Ashford withdraws the amendment. I've read some comments in the newspaper by representatives of Omaha who have been lobbying this bill, and I even talked to Mr. Pfeffer in my office the other day and we had a very frank discussion. But some of the things that they say in the newspaper show a very bunglesome way of handling this and I hope he is out there listening to it. I want him to know it because nothing that I say am I going to say behind his back or the back of anybody connected with the City of Omaha, but this is an ill-advised amendment being offered by Senator Ashford, and I