

office, and I would suggest that perhaps Senator Hoagland might have even been one of them in the past. Now that does not mean, I don't think, that using our phone in our office to do that same thing is really technically illegal. I have got nothing to hide as far as the total amount of dollars that my phone bill is at all. I don't think many of us in here do, and the press have an absolute right to examine the amount of dollars that I am spending for phone calls as opposed to anybody else in here. If we set up a system whereby we are going to have these calls made from a telephone or telephones that will not be chargeable back to each of us as individuals, then we are certainly opening the door to more misuse of total dollars, total tax dollars, regardless of where the phone calls go to. In other words, if I wanted to make 25 calls today to wherever and charge them to the State of Nebraska and made all 25 calls from a telephone booth back here in the Chamber, it is not going to be chargeable to me personally. But if I have enough guts to make them from my own phone down in my office, they are going to be charged to Tom Vickers, and that record is going to be available to the public as to what the total number of dollars that have been expended for those telephone calls are. I think if the purpose of this amendment is to make it more open, it is doing exactly the opposite. It is going exactly the opposite direction from the purposes that I sense Senator Hoagland is attempting to do. So, therefore, I would suggest that no matter which side of the issue you are on in this particular bill, that we reject the Hoagland amendment.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Landis.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, on its face I do not find Senator Hoagland's amendment offensive. I find it a good faith attempt to find a middle ground. On the other hand, I am not going to vote for the Hoagland amendment because although Peter in this case has been a reasonable man, trying to offer a reasonable opportunity to act in this case, he, himself, recognizes that the need for this, the demand for this has come from not a general public outcry but an institutional outcry of editorial comment, and, in fact, that editorial comment is well organized. It has official representatives. A representative of that block of institutional comment appeared at the Government Committee and discussed this bill with us on behalf of the news media of Nebraska. Now I am prepared to be reasonable. I think of myself as a reasonable man, and I am prepared to bargain with reasonable