

people and I said, you know, we ought to pass a law that says nobody can sue the State of Nebraska for more than a half a million dollars. Wouldn't that be nice if the people of Nebraska, the taxpayers, had the same privilege that the privileged have? Now let's not kid ourselves. We know this bill is just going to fly today because the votes are there. It isn't going to be right. It wasn't right when they wrote this law. I heard this bill in committee too and I asked one of the people that appeared, I said, "How much did they use to pay for liability insurance, malpractice?" Well, one doctor said he paid \$35,000 a year before this law became effective and now he is only paying \$1,500 a year. I said, "How much have you lowered your office calls and your operations since you are saving 30 some thousand dollars a year?" He hadn't lowered his prices. He just pocketed another \$30,000 and thumbs his nose at the public because no matter how negligent a doctor might be, no matter how careless or how drunk if they get drunk, you are not going to be able to sue them for more than a half a million dollars. Marge Higgins can get sued for \$10 million. The State of Nebraska can get sued for \$150 million but doctors are sacred in Nebraska because they have one heck of a lobby. I can't vote for this bill. It is terrible. On the one hand I have to vote for it because they are upping the ante to a whole big half a million dollars that you can sue. I guess our committee, the Banking Committee, decided that if you lose a law, your legs, if a doctor inadvertently paralyzes you for the rest of your life it is only worth a half a million dollars though you'd probably go through that in about ten years time by the time other doctors got through treating you and the hospitals and the nursing homes. So what do you do? Do you vote against this bill and then they say, you didn't vote to increase it to a half a million dollars. If you vote for the bill you can tell the people, well I raised that to a half a million. If you vote against the bill, it isn't going to change the law. It is just going to keep it down to a hundred thousand collars. So they kind of got you between a rock and a hard place. I don't know what I am going to do. I don't know what...what should be done and should have been done is the law should have been changed completely. This law should never be on the books. A number of doctors have told me they don't even