

happened on General File. I am tired of memos that have gone out about this meeting that we had. Compromise, as Senator Chambers says, is both sides giving and taking and I think that clearly the side that is supporting this bill is looking for a middle ground. They would love to have this bill worked out. But in retrospect after we sat down and tried to look at some alternatives, they simply felt and their attorney simply felt the language as it stands is the language that they felt they had to have. I wish we could compromise but I don't know if there is a line at which we can cross and join hands with those that oppose the bill and that is something I didn't know on General File. I thought we could work something out and I was wrong and I am sorry for that. But I am not going to say that anybody was hoodwinked, that anybody was wrong, that anybody was misinterpreted because I felt that we had a chance to work it out and I wanted to have that chance and I am sorry it didn't work out. But the Gradwohl letter should explain to you why that is the case. The bill in its present form is the form it has got to be in order to work. Without the last sentence you don't have a bill and that is what I have been told. I wish I had a different story to tell you but that is the story I have been told and I am no legal expert and so I have to rely on their judgment. So no compromise at this point appears to be workable and that is why I don't know if bracketing will help or not. I would rather just decide that this bill is a good or a bad bill. I think it is a good bill and decide on that issue and move forward with the legislation rather than an attempt to work out a compromise that seems unable to be reached.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Hall and then Senator Carsten.

SENATOR HALL: Mr. President and members, I sit on the Business and Labor Committee and we heard this bill and I think the thing I went away from there with was that I thought it was a Lincoln problem. LES seemed to have the biggest problem with the bill. LES doesn't have a huge number of employees. And then the nursing homes came in and they had a problem with their charge nurses and I don't think they have a huge number of charge nurses. Then the League of Municipalities came in and there is a few more people there, I guess. But there is only really if you look at the committee sheet on the hearing, there weren't a lot of people opposing the bill. There is really basically a few in terms of numbers. Senator DeCamp said earlier that