

hyperbolic, it doesn't move us forward on the bill, it is unfair, it is demeaning inside the body. And I hope that we could reflect on the quality of our debate, which has been very lame today. The Delilah down the hall, and the "Vardenstein", and the peanut head and the like is...it hurts the fabric of what we are about. We rely on being reasonable with each other, fair fights on issues and on substance. But the rhetoric has gotten personal and overblown this time. And I would urge caution on all of our parts. I don't know if any of you have read some of the hate mail that Senator Chambers receives. It would turn your stomach, it is awful. He is the victim of abuse in a way that none of us are. But again we should, I think, fasten onto the nature of the bill. When there is a statement that the desire of a member is that the body do nothing meaningful for a day, that is hurtful for the process. We should be doing something meaningful, if it is slogging through amendments, slogging through the language, fair enough. But motions which are priority motions, such as sending it back to committee, such as reconsiderations, gradually prove to be an unfair forum. Now it is true that somebody can take a moral position, as Senator Chambers has outlined here, and it can be a fight between good and evil. But there are all kinds of fights that will pit good and evil from our perspectives. And those must be undertaken in a reasonable fashion that allows the plate to go from one to another. Senator Chambers wants us to have some time to think about this bill. I will agree to that. I will agree to adjourning and to taking this up at another time. But over the course of today, we have not spent time discussing the language of the bill as much as we should. We spent a lot more time on choosing up sides and characterizing the nature of the opposition, and it has not been a good day for us or for the State of Nebraska. It's not been good for the process which relies upon us to pay attention to the genuine differences of opinion that we have, and that ultimately we have to allow those decisions to reach a climax of a vote, and then to allow the majority's will to be done.

SPEAKER BARRETT: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: That is the essence of a democratic and representative institution. This body has unfortunately kept positions of leadership from you, Ernie, and they shouldn't have, and I'm sorry for that. But there is on these kinds of days that feeling in the pit of a lot of people's stomachs that says we have to be reasonable with each other, and we have gone beyond that point on this bill in the way that we've treated