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develop since the advent of deregulation in telecommunications. With the deregulation and the efforts to encourage and actually require competition in serving our customers, whether it be local or long distance services as the case may be, the Public Service Commission has had to become extremely involved in the process to assure service, to assure competitive pricing, to assure cooperation on the part of all parties. The object of LB 1285 as introduced is to implement for the first time an additional authority for the Public Service Commission. That authority would be to impose an administrative fine of up to \$10,000 per occurrence per day in the event that a party would choose to violate an order entered by the court...entered by the commission I should say. That is the initial purpose and intent of LB 1285. There are states that do have this authority. Nebraska traditionally has not granted that authority, but has left that to the courts to impose fines. The Universal Service Fund, which is now available, money is being generated into the Universal Service Fund every day as we speak. There were thoughts that perhaps the commission could use withholding of Universal Service Funds as a hammer, if you will, for those companies that fail to cooperate or to abide by a commission order. The problem is...is...there are at least two problems with that approach. One problem is that not every...not every company is a recipient of Universal Service Funds. Those companies that are in here on a...on a...such as AT&T long distance carrier, do not receive Universal Service Funds, so there's nothing to withhold if they're not a recipient. Another policy question for us to deal with on that issue is Universal Service Fund is paid by ratepayers, by customers, by phone users, by you and I, by our constituents, that is paid by them. And it is intended to be given back to help provide services to them in an efficient and a reasonable and a thorough way. A fine, if a fine is imposed as a penalty for noncompliance, a fine comes out of the coffers of the company that violates the order. It comes out of their profits, it comes from their stockholders. There would theoretically be less money to distribute in the way of a dividend if the company paid a fine. So, from a policy standpoint, I want to be sure that we understand the difference. And I am suggesting to this body, as I believe the Transportation and Telecommunications Committee was suggesting, that we think it's more appropriate if someone is a bad actor, if they violate provisions of the commission's