

Senator Hannibal's resolution or his amendment and ask that we stick with the previous dollar amount.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Haberman.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Mr. President, members of the body, I was going to ask Senator Johnson a question. Is he here? If not, I'll ask Senator Beutler. Is Senator Johnson anywhere around?

SPEAKER NICHOL: Yes, he's here.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Would you hit your gavel, Mr. Speaker, because I'd like to have everybody hear this, please.

SPEAKER NICHOL: (Gavel.).

SENATOR HABERMAN: Senator Johnson, I respect your judgement as an attorney, sometimes. I would like to ask you a direct question. The resolution says that the money will...full and complete settlement of all claims, and it goes down in the second paragraph and again says, all savings...company related claims against the State of Nebraska. If this resolution is passed, would...and if the courts would say we're liable and all that sort of thing, or if the resolution was passed, would this stop, absolutely stop, future lawsuits from individuals, corporations or people out of state from suing the State of Nebraska over the Commonwealth issue?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: This resolution, if passed, if the full settlements are effected through the court process, would probably stop a very large number of lawsuits, but probably would not be able to stop every conceivable type of lawsuit.

SENATOR HABERMAN: Thank you very much, Senator Johnson. I'd like to bring to the attention of this body that although this says we settle claims, and we pay this money, we could still end up in the same situation later on down the road by future lawsuits, because it does not settle all claims because more can be filed against the state. So, therefore, I would still say, let's wait and see what the courts say. I want you to keep in mind what you are doing when you pass this intent legislation because it doesn't stop a thing as it might read. Thank you, Mr. President.