

to go back on a bond on that. But then it was repaired once after that, apparently not adequately. This time they are going in and strip it and lay back the... Gary Hannibal can... Senator Hannibal can assist me maybe. I forget what it is they lay back, but anyway it is a tighter roofing than... it is a what... membrane roofing. Now I bet you know what it is. But anyway this should correct it but it is leaking badly and obviously it is one of those instances that should have been fixed correctly the second time.

SENATOR SCHMIT: Thank you, Senator Warner. I would just like to point out, I think most of us have been the victim of the same sort of circumstance that Senator Warner has indicated the state was caught in, that is a contractor with inadequate financial resources and so I think that we have to recognize that it isn't just a matter of getting the low bid on a lot of capital construction or whether it is the Department of Roads or whatever it is. I probably travel 50 to 60,000 miles a year on the roads in Nebraska and I can tell you there is a wide range of quality construction. And so I would hope that we would recognize that sometimes a low bid process needs to be viewed very, very cautiously because there isn't anything that can't be done cheaper and then in the event the contractor is not available for settlement, the state has no recourse, of course, except to pick it up. I want to just point out again that we are sometimes criticized as a Legislature and as a government because we don't always take the very lowest bid. But there isn't anything that can't be underbid if you don't care about the quality of the work. And so then we, of course, are faced with the only recourse that the Appropriations Committee has taken and that is to fix the building, fix the roof on it to protect the building. I think that we are going to see more of that as we enter into what are probably serious economic conditions and I would just like for the record to say that when those contracts are let by the state whether it is for capital construction, whether it is for road projects, or whatever it is, I think we need to be sure that the contractor has adequate resources. Senator Sieck and I had a little experience out in our area where a road was built that was so rough after they finished it and the state accepted it, but they had to grind the thing off. Now that is a new experience in my book and I have been around a few years, but I point out once again that price has many different relationships to the quality of work and the length of the work, so I would certainly support the bill