

the plan that is embodied in LB 713 and ask you to go forward with carrying out the commitment I thought we made back in January. Now this is a very touchy situation and there is a lot of bad feelings that are being expressed on the floor. This morning's article has got a lot of people concerned and upset and I apologize for any hard feelings that may have resulted. I don't know where the source of all that information is and I don't know quite all that's going on, but I can tell you this, it's very important that we put aside those hard feelings and put aside whatever bad, bad will and what have you is existing at this moment and talk about the fact that there are 7,000 people, people that trusted the State of Nebraska, that got letters from the Banking Department, that were told by the Banking Department that their money was safe, they put their money in this institution with the understanding that it would be protected and then lost their money. Those are the people we're talking about. We're not talking about the Lincoln senators, we're not talking about this or that individual or World Herald or articles or accusations or whatever. We're talking about human beings, people that are hurting right now and we're very close to resolving a two year problem, two year crisis in the sense that we are very close to resolving and we can't let this opportunity slip away. The DeCamp amendment truly would gut the bill and leave us without a situation that could be called a settlement. We cannot allow, I think, the DeCamp amendment to be adopted. We must go forward with the bill as it presently is constituted or we lose the negotiations that have been going on between both sides throughout the last few months. I ask you to please put aside whatever feelings you have at this moment, hard feelings or bad ideas you might have about the situation this morning and think about those people and think about what is right and wrong and move forward voting with your conscience on what we can do to help those people and settle this issue.

PRESIDENT: The Chair recognizes Senator Beutler.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, many people have been worrying about the strength of the legal case as opposed to the moral obligation and I want to re-emphasize to you again how the history of this Legislature has emphasized not the legal case, but the moral obligation time and time and time again. One of the most important things about democratic government is not only