

deliberately didn't. Obviously, you thought maybe that when you are making the decision, or you are making your boss judgments, or you are the supervisor you shouldn't be subject to this. But when employees of the state, with agency heads, are involved in the same situation, those agency heads should be put under the gun like this. If there is true fraud or violations of the law there are systems, we have the law. Senator Beutler pointed out several of them. So I'd urge you to vote against the bill.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Landis, please.

SENATOR LANDIS: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, that is not a fair statement of what is in the bill, although I would accept the admonition that you should read it. There are limitations to what can happen. First, it tells you what the purpose of the bill is and what is to be examined. We are talking about gross waste, a specific danger to public health and safety, violations of laws, those kinds of levels of matter. Secondly, nobody is hauled into court to justify what they do or do not. The public Ombudsman takes these allegation, does an investigation. If they prove to be true, he proceeds. That is not done in a court. That is not done with lawyers. That is done with some oversight. Third, with respect to the definition you simply do a matter of what the public Ombudsman's current jurisdiction is, that is why it is limited to what it is. But I'd ask you this question, who knows where waste is in state government? We all think it is there. We all think we know. How many of us know it? How good are we as protectors against fraud and mismanagement? We are not good, we are too far away. When the Defense Department had the unfortunate experience of one of their underlings reporting the kind of contracts that had been made to a congressional committee and embarrassing the Defense Department, he was transferred. When the congressional committee wanted to talk to him again the Defense Department wouldn't send him over. He'd been transferred to "Podunk Junction." Now if you believe, as apparently Senator DeCamp does, that there is no attempt to cover your blank on the part of managers, who may or may not be found with less than good management practices in fact, through simple negligence or whatever is gross fiscal mismanagement, if you don't think there is a scurrying around to cover your tracks, well then don't vote for the bill. I know that public employees have come to me and said, listen, I know that sometimes the