

SENATOR WARNER: I have great confidence in the Senator that provided it to me.

SENATOR DECAMP: Then let me ask you the final question because similar information on fees was provided to the committee, in fact almost identical. And when I checked out that information I found out it could, at best, be described as not accurate. Let me explain. The fees in Nebraska are a certain amount for the first one, the first examination and for every other examination, or not examination but every other abstract. In other states, particularly the ones with some of the higher fees you mentioned, I think if you will check you will find that as you increase the number, let's say beyond one or two or whatever, the fees go down dramatically, and in fact on any significant number would be not more than and in many cases less than Nebraska. So, for example, if you got 50 abstracts the first one might be \$10, or \$7, or \$2, or whatever, but above that they might be 25 cents, or \$1.00, or something like that. So net effect would be a completely different picture than it would appear from the numbers read. The reason I bring this up is because in Nebraska this is a fee, a fee for a service. The current rate not only pays completely, more than pays for the service, but in the case of the people who use the service the most, they are financing almost the entire system even though their cost to provide the service to them is minimal. I'm talking about the insurance companies, that is who use most of the abstracts. They do it usually in lots of 50, 80, 100, or a couple hundred. The cost of extracting averages about 13 cents or 14 cents apiece for their obtaining those. At some point, when you try to turn user fees into a hidden taxation system which is what this does, then you destroy the user fees and you give the incentive, which may be good, to set up a private and independent free enterprise system providing the same service. In the case of Nebraska that would hurt considerably. The reason it would hurt is because this information has to be maintained on the computer and has to be maintained for the purposes of running and operating the State Patrol and the whole system there...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR DECAMP: ...and, therefore, if you destroy the people that purchase the service you are still going to be