

to go to \$8.5 million I'm not sure it's worth pursuing it at all. The \$12.5 million is awfully hard for me to swallow. It is probably hard for some of you to swallow as well. It is probably more than you'd like to give but still at least there is some semblance of an effort on our part to help them out. The semblance that is important to me is that we still recognize the miscellaneous claim part of the bill. The tort claim was an attempt to settle the legal liability at \$8.5 million for the State of Nebraska. That is what we are talking about there. Then everybody says that is all our liability is. Well, in one sense perhaps you are right, in another sense you are not right because the other part of the liability question is the moral obligation, the moral liability that we have. There is a moral issue here. What did we say to those people? What did we lead them to believe? How did we regulate that institution? What happened within that institution? What are we left with in terms of confidence in this state and our regulation of financial institutions? That moral obligation, it isn't a legal obligation I understand, but that moral obligation is pretty important to me and I would hope important to you. Moral obligations are important to this state. The way we keep our work is important in this state. The way we handle...

SPEAKER NICHOL: One minute.

SENATOR WESELY: ...crises is important to this state. The way we look out for one another in this state is very important because if we give the impression to these people that we don't care about them then who is next to not be cared about. If we would have had a disaster in Nebraska, like Ohio or Maryland had, where the whole state went under in terms of institutions that failed, we would have acted more quickly is the message that these people are hearing and which I am hearing. But because it is only one institution in one city, primarily, all the rest of the state is not as concerned. That is an indication of a value system that I didn't think was in place in Nebraska. I thought it was different. I hope it is different. I hope all of you will put aside the fact that this is but one institution in one city and recognize it is Nebraskans who have been hurt, and there is a moral obligation to help them. I ask you please to support this amendment. It is lower than the \$20.5 million, it is \$12.5 million, but at least it is more than the \$8.5 million which many of you are