

contractors who are in the process of negotiating agreements with general contractors to put plumbing into buildings that they should not be able to agree to disagree in a fashion of submitting their disagreements through arbitration. What you're saying to management back in the City of Omaha is when you negotiate a contract to put plumbing into a building, if you have a disagreement, the only thing you can do is go to court, the only thing you can do is hire an attorney, the only thing you can do is sue. What I am saying is that what we need to do is have a provision that will allow that plumbing contractor and that general contractor and that owner to say, if we have a disagreement, let's arbitrate it instead of suing over it. That's all that this bill does. It's not a huge labor-management fight. It is one Senator Beutler is correct. Senator Beutler is carrying this bill. I could just as easily be doing it. A year and a half ago I was asked to go to lunch with some folks that represent a fairly sizeable public employee labor union in this state. Same week, coincidentally, I got a phone call from a management group, the Associated General Contractors, City of Omaha, the State of Nebraska, saying, you know, we need an arbitration bill in the State of Nebraska. It would be very helpful to us. I sat down with both of them. Both of them were very supportive of this. You can't get two groups probably more diametrically opposed to each other philosophically than AGC and NSEA. They both came to me individually and said, let's promote this bill, it's good for the citizens of the state. That's what Senator Beutler is saying. That's what Senator Hoagland is saying. That's what other proponents of this bill are saying. As a management representative, I think it's a good idea and it ought to be advanced. Thank you.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Marsh, then Senator Abboud.

SENATOR MARSH: I move the previous question.

SPEAKER NICHOL: The question has been called. Do I see five hands? I do. The question is, shall debate cease? All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Have you all voted? Record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 16 ayes, 7 nays to cease debate, Mr. President.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Senator Lamb, then Senator Beutler.