

that is why the law is so bad now. Political subdivisions can get this done. They are in a position to tell senators from their area they will either work against their campaign, they'll tell the people in their district they're not doing their job and they intimidate and bully senators into doing what they want done and the proof of it is that this same attitude is not carried through when we talk about every suit filed for any purpose against any individual or entity. Why are you going to allow a five-year statute of limitations in the case of citizen suing citizen for breach of contract or four years in the case of a negligent act? It's that these other constituencies are not organized and do not have the paid lobbyist who are the hired guns that the political subdivisions have.

SENATOR LAMB: One minute, Senator.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So you take from the citizen for the sake of the political subdivision which supposedly is representing the best interest of the citizen. And the best interest of the citizen in some cases is to have that political subdivision exposed to liability for a reasonable period of time in the case of negligence by their employees. You don't improve what the political subdivision is doing by reducing their exposure to liability. You encourage them to show less regard for the safety of the public. The public is the one being hurt by a bill such as this and for somebody on this floor to say that a jury trial is going to hurt the system or hurt the political subdivision is to indicate that ordinary citizens who are judging what the political subdivision has done may be sympathetic to a citizen who has been harmed through the negligence of an employee of a political subdivision. And you all will probably say that a jury trial should be denied.

SENATOR LAMB: Your time has expired, Senator. Senator Hoagland, to close on your amendment.

SENATOR HOAGLAND: I don't know what the sentiment of the body is going to be on this. You know frequently Senator Chambers will say in his speeches, I told you so, and I think this is an amendment that if we don't adopt today, I will be able to come back five or ten years from now and tell my former colleagues, I told you so, and let me tell you why. The largest verdict ever handed down by a jury in the State of Nebraska in an injury case that I know of is