

of legislation on this floor in this manner do you come up with a decent kind of bill. We have learned it over the years. It was no accident. It was no accident that we had the study we had and that we came up with the bill that we did come up with. It is a complex issue. It is an important issue and the impact upon the people of the State of Nebraska is profound. Senator Lamb has handed out the editorial...

SPEAKER NICHOL: Time is up.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...in the Lincoln Journal. I would ask you to glance at it and take it to heart. Thank you very much.

SPEAKER NICHOL: Thank you. Senator Abboud, please.

SENATOR ABBOUD: Mr. President, colleagues, this will be the last time I will comment on the bill on Select File. I would like to say one thing that I think you have to think about when you are deciding on this vote on this bill and that is, why do we need the bill passed this year? I don't believe the proponents of the bill have made a legitimate...or given a legitimate reason on this floor why we need total deregulation of telecommunications in the State of Nebraska this year. Now, the normal approach in dealing with legislation that has to be passed this year, I know at least it has been usually with tax measures, when we have had tax measures usually we are bringing in and we are doing a particular piece of legislation to bring in a particular industry into the state. But they won't even acknowledge, they won't even make promises that this is going to result in more jobs. They won't acknowledge that this is going to bring in more industry. They talk in generalities, generalities of telecommunications being an important industry and we have to deregulate it to provide...to help these telecommunication industries which are growing in the State of Nebraska. Well, my feeling is contrary to that. I think you are going to increase the cost of telecommunications in the State of Nebraska for the majority, the overwhelming majority of good, solid businesses that we have in the state, the implement dealers that are having problems out in greater Nebraska, the corn dealers, the seed dealers throughout the state, those small businessmen, the retailers. It is going to increase everybody's bill. There will be no more new jobs created by this legislation, only increased profits or increased revenue for the phone company. Now, why is the bill being introduced this year and why is it being pushed so hard this year? Well, there is a window of opportunity. It is an opportunity in the fact that