

the histrionics so far this morning. They are relatively typical of a group of people that indulges in language such as lies, polygraph examinations, and dishonesty, and deceit. But I am here for one purpose and one purpose only and that is for honor and integrity. A person of honor and integrity will never have to submit to a polygraph examination because that person's word is good and is known to be good, and that person is trusted in what that person does. This body made a collegial decision in June. The decision, very simply, was we would pay \$8.5 million to settle a legal liability and that we would know that in future months and in future years disgruntled Commonwealth depositors and disgruntled citizens would come before the Claims Board with a nonlegal claim, known as a miscellaneous claim, and present that claim, and it could be granted or denied by the Claims Board, but it would ultimately have to be passed upon by us. We knew where our backbones were. We knew where our integrity was and we knew we would deny the miscellaneous claim if it ever came before us, we knew that, but we left that door open because, as Senator Beutler points out, we could not close that door. We simply could not close that door because anybody can bring a claim at any time anybody wants to bring a claim. Frankly, frankly, the validity of such claim simply depends upon the steel in the spines of 49 senators and that is all. I trust our steel because I know that claim will be denied. But we simply looked at the legal question, which the Commonwealth Committee looked at, which the court system looked at, which the Special Attorney General looked at, which the Legislative Research Office looked at, and virtually everybody that looked at it said that the legal claim is of limited validity, it probably won't go any place. But, as Senator DeCamp points out, sometimes in cases there is a ten to one chance that the case might succeed. So we value that legal claim at \$8.5 million and we settled it out. And we knew what we were doing in June, we settled it out. But we made a technical mistake in the bill. So we came back to correct the technical mistake because we are big, and we are tall, and we are strong, and we're going to correct the technical mistake. I'm not going to have my honor sullied, or my integrity sullied, or the honor or the integrity of this body sullied by a rehash on an issue that we decided, and we decided rightfully. It is a matter of trust. I've been a lawyer for 20 years and I have been in settlement negotiations many times for many clients. When I give my word, to my opposing counsel, that my client has authorized