

performance audits, because it is a good thing for us to have. All of us recognize that. One of the things in the mill is taking legislative research, and either taking all of it, or part of it, or some of it, or adding to it and making that branch the performance audit branch of the State of Nebraska. And that, to me, has merits. So I guess in summarizing my point, the real reason the auditor came in was because they want to do performance audits. That, in my judgment, is not advisable at this particular point. If you simply go on the fact that they need computers, so do a lot of other people more desperately than the state auditor. We were not able to get that accomplished. And if we are to accomplish that, where do you draw the line? So, at this point, I would hope that the body would not support the Hall amendment and would hope for better times in the next few years, so we can not only do the auditors office,...

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Time.

**SENATOR BERNARD-STEVENS:** ...but also do some of the other offices as well. Thank you.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Thank you, Senator Bernard-Stevens. Senator Chizek.

**SENATOR CHIZEK:** Mr. Speaker, colleagues, I rise to support the Hall amendment. I think we have requested of the state auditor certain things for that office to do. I think it only behooves us to provide the tools necessary for that office to do, irrespective of who is in the office. I'll bet, colleagues, we could take a poll and almost everyone in this body would wish that we would have had audited Commonwealth. I'll bet we could take a poll and everyone in this body would have wished we could have audited the low-level waste funds. Here we come, after the fact in those areas, with a terrible problem. I'm not saying that problem exists in these other areas. I'm saying let's give the office the tools that are necessary to do the job. For those reasons, I support the Hall amendment.

**SPEAKER BAACK:** Thank you, Senator Chizek. Senator Crosby.

**SENATOR CROSBY:** Thank you, Mr. Speaker and members. And, Senator Moore, I wanted to point out to you, remember the little cartoon I gave you of the Meerkats, there were only seven, there weren't...nine. So one of us is going to not stand up with you