

dollars co-op credit to the institutions today, such as FirstTier, Norwest, and of course the First National Bank. All of those entities must try to work together to serve the people of the State of Nebraska. There are, of course, differences of opinion as to how that is best accomplished. This is, I believe, a reasonable step in the right direction. I will say this, that I've carried bills for these institutions, the banking institutions for many years. I worked with many fine individuals. Unfortunately most of those individuals I worked with, 20 years ago, are either retired, fired, or dead. And so the people who are here today, behind the glass doors, many of you have never seen before. I don't know if you will ever see them again. I would hope that they will maintain contact with you, as legislators, so that questions, legitimate questions, such as those that have been raised by members on this floor, can be answered. You cannot separate the banking institution from the rest of this Legislature. What happens to banks is, of course, very, very intimately involved with what happens to the rest of this legislative session. If you want to really fill the Rotunda with bankers, I guess if we would add an amendment to 829 that reimposes the tax on intangibles, it will be wall-to-wall bankers out there. But the facts are that many times we do not see representatives, not just of banking, but of other industries, agriculture industry, et cetera, unless something comes up which directly affects that institution. There really ought to have been just as many bankers here yesterday when we were talking about the revenue bills. There should have been representatives of all industries, because those bills, ladies and gentlemen, have a direct impact upon the institution of banking, as well as does this bill here today, in fact maybe a much greater impact. The people who are here today have an interest in this bill, I have confidence in. They have assured me that they try to serve the people of Nebraska, and that they will continue to do so. I hope that they will make good on those promises. As I said,...

SPEAKER BAACK PRESIDING

SPEAKER BAACK: One minute.

SENATOR SCHMIT: ...I'm not as comfortable today with the banking system as I was 40 years ago, or 30 years ago. But I believe that the bills that this Legislature have enacted in the past 20 years have been basically good for the State of Nebraska, and that means that the people in Nebraska are better