

a lot of small businesses in the state and I've gotten them too and I am not opposed to work comp reform. Other things in this bill that I think are harmful to workers or reduce a worker's benefits or whatever, I am not opposed because I think there do have to be some concession, but the question I run into is at what point do you reach a piling on? And I think that's where we've gotten to. We've all gotten letters from our small businesses and I suspect that they've been pretty well advised by the State Chamber, at least I have been. I'm a member of the State Chamber of Commerce and I've gotten the same newsletters. But how many of the...remember, 93 percent of our workers are not represented by labor, 93 percent of our workers are not represented by labor. Who is telling your rank and file voters, who is telling them about this bill? And I suggest to you if the newspaper isn't telling them, they aren't hearing it because they're not getting newsletters. They're not getting information like that so that they can write to their senator. I suspect if you told them if they get injured on the job, the company is going to choose their doctor for them, that you might be hearing from them, but that word is not getting out. If we look even at organized labor, you need only look behind the glass there and see some faces pressed up there now and then from members of the union that are saying, no, this isn't a good thing. But, unfortunately, and Senator Ashford mentioned, this is one of those bills that is going to go as is and maybe it's silly for me to be doing what it is and I'm not even going to look around, I see a lot of heads nodding, but it is something that I think is an extremely important issue. While we're going through this, I guess I would simply ask you to look at the physician choice issue, to look at it, talk a little bit about it amongst some of your colleagues and see whether that is, in fact, good policy. I represent a very blue collar district. People in my district that once I've discussed it with them don't think that is a good policy and I don't think it is. But getting back now for the final minute or so of my closing, to get back to the issue at hand is the safety committees. We've heard that, conceptually, in Oregon safety committees are a good thing. Oregon had a very broad-based change to their work comp. They have a very strong enforcement mechanism for their OSHA, for their state OSHA type things. It is well funded, they have a workplace safety and Oregon has my admiration, and if Nebraska was doing that, if Nebraska businesses were willing to subject themselves to some of the enforcement mechanisms, those types of things, I think you'd see a little less fighting from me anyway, but that isn't the case, that isn't the case. I can assure you