

Legislature, his wife, Priscilla, his daughter, Mickala, and his granddaughter, Charlie Marie, are here under the north balcony. Will you all stand and be recognized. Senator Wehrbein, you're next.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Madam Speaker and members, I rise once again to oppose the amendment. I will not make a long dissertation on the free enterprise system, except to say that nothing is perfect in this world, but I just would defend the free enterprise system as being as close as we can get. Some way we have to allocate our resources. I think it applies to this amendment for us to demand in law that we allocate resources one way or the other by... simply by demand is a difficult decision and I think is a decision we ought to think very carefully about. One way or another economics is going to determine how these resources are allocated. We need to look at all of the facets of what it takes to do business. I guess a lot of this does go back to what our value system is and how we temper our decisions that we make in business. And with that part, I could agree with what Senator Hall is going to do. But to mandate it into law, to get into the area of decisionmaking when there are literally millions or if not billions of decisions made every day in allocations of resources across this country and in Nebraska, for us to interfere into that decision, into that marketplace, I believe, in the long run, it will not be serving the best interests of all concerned. I understand some of Senator Chambers concern and certainly our history is filled with some of the incidents that he mentioned. On the other hand, I have known no other system in the world that has necess... has survived this long that has allocated its resources any better. And so I would defend my opposition to this based on the fact that to continue to let the process work as we know it in this country and as it works in Nebraska. And certainly there ought to be incumbent upon those that are making the decisions as to who the contractors will be and who the workers will be to take into account what Senator Hall has said. I would concur with that. But I'm not willing to put it into statute and mandate this because it does get us into this... in the middle of this process where I do not think government properly belongs.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator. Thank you, Senator Wehrbein. Senator Hall, your light is next.

SENATOR HALL: Thank you, Madam President, and members, again, I