

Grand Island provided during the time of the storm. They spent \$2,000 of their own money in order to advertise to people that there is such a thing as a lien law. I think that is probably why our experience has been as good as it is. It is a part of what is a part of this committee amendment and I would just say this, that I want to share with you the experience in Grand Island as I got it from the Credit Bureau and then contrast for you what would happen if we go to 512 without the committee amendments. Number one, in Grand Island there was \$60,000 lost on lien law. In other words there was \$60,000 paid by people the second time, total for all of the construction that took place in Grand Island after the storm. There was \$115,000,000 of contracts, a \$115,000,000 of contracts. Now if you can tell me that .0005 is a very high percentage of construction cost, I will put in with you but eliminate the lien law and pay cash if you are a subcontractor to every supplier when he delivers your goods, borrow the money and then take 1% only of the total construction in Grand Island and see the number of dollars that you spend. It is more likely to be 5% in my estimation and I don't see why this Legislature wants to put on an additional cost to everyone who wants to build a home in this state in order to eliminate the lien law. It just isn't fair to all the people who take the time to study the law nor is it fair, in my estimation, for us to say to people, "you don't have to look at the contractor you do business with, you don't have to worry about the subcontractors, you don't have to worry about the source of your raw materials for your house." Everyone of us know we have a responsibility when we build a home and I personally believe that what the committee has suggested here is a good amendment and that we ought to support it and that it ought to pass into law and we ought to let it function and see how it operates. I think the original bill, 512, will increase the cost of housing in the State of Nebraska no less than 2% and 2% in this economy is certainly a lot more than what most people can afford.

SENATOR KAHLE: Senator Goll, you are next.

SENATOR GOLL: Mr. Speaker, members of the Legislature, first of all I would like to reprimand Senator DeCamp for alluding to the wrong brand. I would appreciate it if my colleagues in the future would please take that into consideration. I need all the advertising I can get, Senator John, thank you. I wish to speak to LB 512 and particularly in opposition to the amendments as presented which I feel waters down a bill that even now is not tough enough to fully protect the ultimate consumer. As a small independent businessman I was personally involved with a contractor who had been born and