

caused Joe Soukup harm, why don't we collect the money from them? They have done the wrong. But, no, we have already passed a law that says, "Public officials, you are responsible when you do something wrong", and now we are coming right up behind and say, "Public officials, you are not really responsible. The governmental entity for whom you work will pick up the tab and you are not responsible for a thing". When Mr. Sieck does something wrong, he is responsible. Nobody stands behind him. Unless he has covered himself with insurance, he pays through the nose. Nobody else protects him. Why should we say to public employees, it is okay to do anything you want because we are picking up the tab. Really my point here is, I don't think we really realize what we have just done a few minutes ago by picking up a tab with no lawsuit, no nothing. We have just picked up something and done it without any reason and I think that will haunt us for years to come. I oppose Senator Johnson's amendment to not pay this. If we are going to be consistent, I think we should pay the people who have done this, not because they were willful and wanting, because that is not what it said they were. It said they were Indifferent and I think there is a big difference.

SENATOR CLARK: Senator Higgins.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Mr. Speaker, would Senator Johnson yield to a question? On this claim sheet it says, "A claim for indemnification against a judgment by the Federal District Court for Nebraska. \$739.50 for damages." Is that what the inmate would get?

SENATOR JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: And "\$2,164.00 for court costs including attorney fees for the plaintiff's attorney", is that what the attorneys would get?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: He sat 69 days in the hole and he gets \$739 and the attorneys get \$2164?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: Yes.

SENATOR HIGGINS: Can we split the question on this?

SENATOR V. JOHNSON: No. If you would like, I can elaborate on it. I mean the judgment is already a judgment. Incidentally, the \$2164 is for court costs. For all we know,